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BON JOVI!
ALEC JOHN SUCH OUT?!

NIRVANA!
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METALLICA

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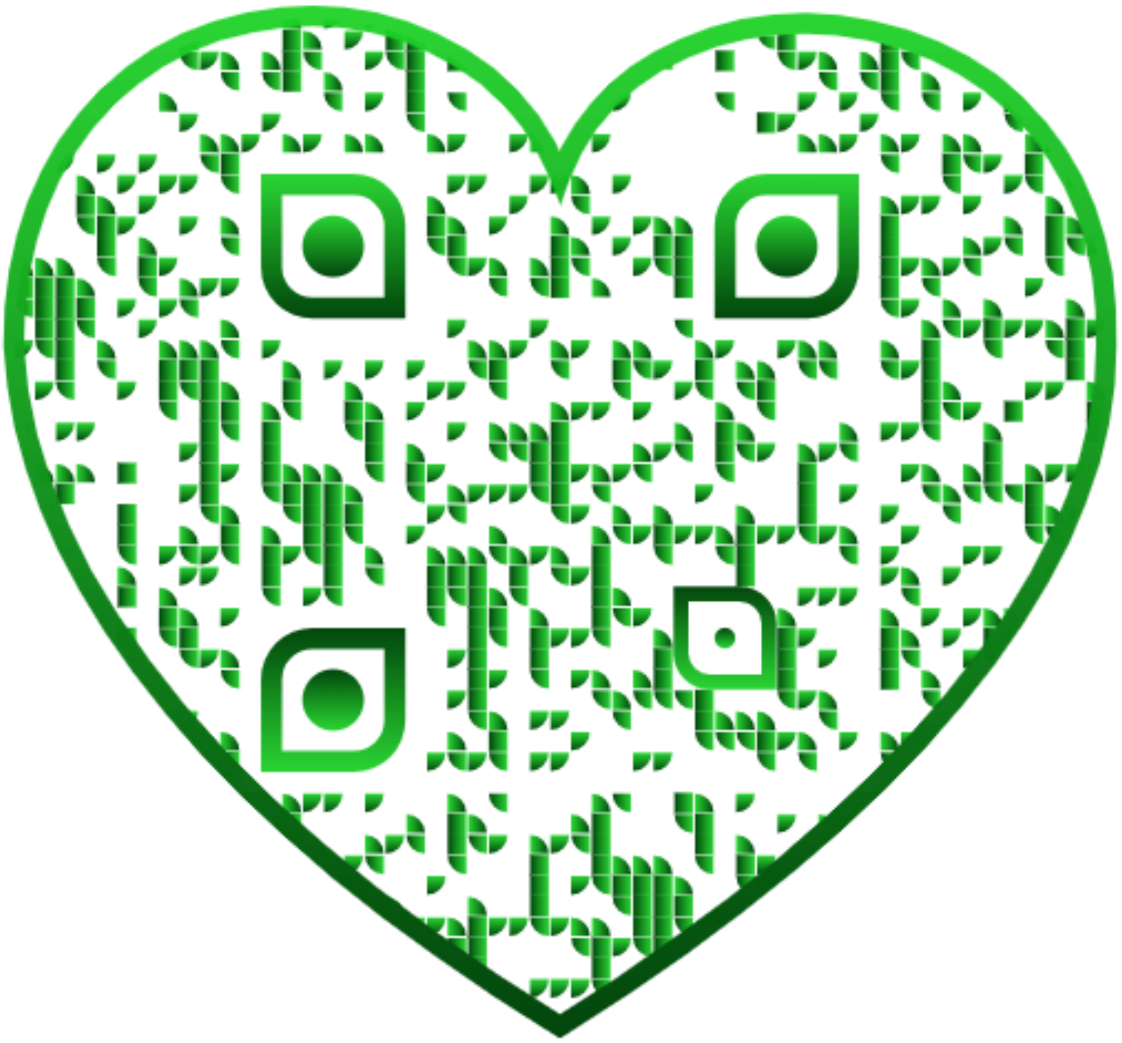

HEAVIER THAN HELL, RIGHT HERE ON EARTH!

ULTRAKILL!

The second skull-crushing issue of the world's most over-the-top Extreme Metal magazine is in the shops from Thursday May 19. It features: Max Cavalera of Sepultura on the cover – and gracing the insides are the likes of Biohazard, Napalm Death, Paradise Lost, Killing Joke, The Obsessed, Deicide, HR Giger, Crowbar, Cradle Of Filth, The Dwarves, Entombed, Ministry, Cubanate, Doomstone, Cynic– and The Devil himself... Need we really say more?

SECOND HELLISH ISSUE, ON SALE RIGHT NOW!

KONTENTZ

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20 years of 'Rock And Roll All Nite', an' PAUL STANLEY and GENE SIMMONS are still going strong! As tribute LP 'Kiss My Ass' hits the shops, we take a nostalgic look back with the Gods Of Thunder!

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New hard-rockin', gravel-throated chick sensation! Just who IS Sass Jordan?!

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Got over yer hangovers yet, boozers? Hope not, cos here's Part Two of our special Great British Heavy Metal Awards on-the-spot report (hic)! The stars, the bars and the morning after disasters! Plus, win free beer for a year!

62 FISH!
The towering Scot grapples the Konfrontations!

MOTÖRHEAD!

The boys are back in town! LEMMY and his honchos ride again, destroying everything in their path in this week's Koncertz extravaganza! Also featurin' HELMET, PRONG, BLIND MELON, DIO, L7 and more!...

SEE PAGE 16!

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Kontentz pic of Motörhead's Lemmy by Paul Harries. Cover pic of Lars Ulrich of Metallica by Ross Halfin. Kiss illustration by Ray Zall.

KOVER KWIZZ!

To celebrate Kiss' 20 years of horny Heavy Metal, here are five sexist Metal teasers! Lick it up!

1 Who penned the classic Cock Rock ode, 'Wang Dang Sweet Poontang'?

2 Name W.A.S.P.'s legendary debut single?

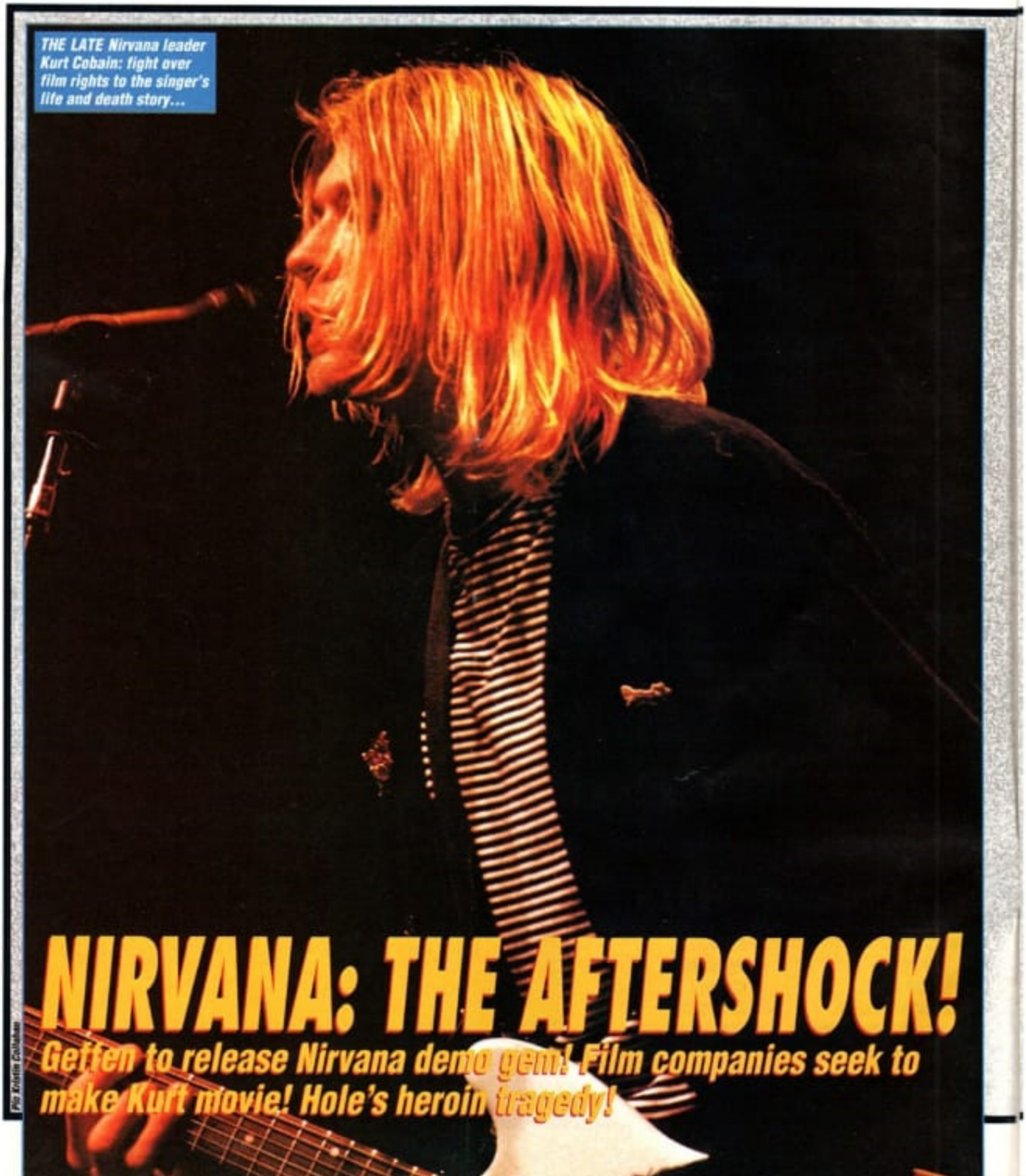
3 Who boasted that 'She Loves My Cock'?

4 And who invited y'all to a 'Sex Party'?

5 And which Saxon song features the immortal lyric: 'Another town, another place/Another girl to sit on my face'?

THE HOTTEST NEWS IN METAL *FIRST!*

MAYHEM



THE LATE Nirvana leader Kurt Cobain: fight over film rights to the singer's life and death story...

Pic Kristin Callahan

NIRVANA: THE AFTERSHOCK!

Geffen to release Nirvana demo gem! Film companies seek to make Kurt movie! Hole's heroin tragedy!

STOP PRESS

MICHAEL MONROE, the former *Hanoi Rocks* frontman, has returned with a new band by the name of *Demolition 23*. The outfit also feature ex-Hanoi/*Cheap 'N' Nasty* axeman *Nasty Suicide*...
JACKYL, the rude Deep Fried Metal squad, make their UK debut on July 14 at *London Marquee*. They also release a single titled *'Push Come To Shove'* on July 11...
AC/DC are in the preliminary stages of working on their next album. The band initially regrouped in LA at the start of the year, but were forced to cancel their pre-production plans due to the earthquake which hit California. The fivesome are now understood to have resumed work on the follow-up to *'The Razor's Edge'*. No fixed date of completion or release has been set...
And finally the Big *K!* would like to kongratulate to PEARL JAM's *Eddie Vedder* and his long-time soulmate *Beth Liebling*, who tied the knot recently!

■ ***NIRVANA*** are to have an unreleased track included on a forthcoming Geffen Records compilation. This will be the first material released in the wake of vocalist/guitarist *Kurt Cobain*'s suicide in April, the aftershock of which is still being felt.

The album will sport the title *'DGC Rarities Vol 1'* in the US and *'Geffen Rarities Vol 1'* in the UK with a slightly different tracklisting for each country. Both will feature a Nirvana demo track titled *'Pay To Play'*.

'Pay...' was picked by Kurt himself for inclusion prior to his death, and was recorded by *Butch Vig* in August 1990, before being reworked as *'Stay Away'* and included on the Seattle outfit's multi-million selling *'Nevermind'* opus.

'Geffen Rarities...' is released in the UK on August 30 on vinyl, cassette and CD and at mid-price. The full tracklisting is as follows:

Side One: *Urge Overkill 'Dropout'*, Nirvana 'Pay To Play', *Weezer 'Jamie'*, *Sonic Youth 'Compilation Blues'* (an out-take from their *'Experimental Jet Set...'* sessions), *Beck 'Bogusflow'*, *That Dog 'Grunge Couple'* (by all accounts, a tribute to Sonic Youth and *Spinal Tap*!).

Side Two: *Counting Crows 'Einstein On The Beach (For An Eggman)'*, *Maria McKee 'The Plague'*, *The Posies 'Open Every Window'*, *Sloan 'Stove/Smother'*, *St Johnny 'Wild Goose Chasing'*, *Murray Attaway 'Allegory'*.

Elsewhere on the Nirvana front, speculation has been mounting concerning the race to buy the film rights to the Kurt Cobain story. Calls to secure the film rights were reported to have been made to *Gold Mountain Entertainment*, Nirvana's management company, a matter of hours after Kurt's body was discovered in Seattle. Latest reports suggest that Hollywood is lining up at least one film on Kurt, with big name stars likely to assume the leading roles. The script is likely to be based around *'Never Fade Away'*, a biography by *Dave Thomson*, although it is unclear which film company will actually produce the film.

Gold Mountain Entertainment are unlikely to grant permission for any of Nirvana's material to appear in the film and Cobain's widow, *Hole* leader *Courtney Love*, is equally likely to block the actual making of any such movie.

This mounting activity comes just two weeks after the death of Hole bass player *Kristen Pfaff*, who died on Thursday, June 16 of a suspected drug overdose. Pfaff, who was known to have used heroin, was found dead in the bath at 9.30am, and was expected to be returning to Minneapolis that day where her former band, *Janitor Joe*, are based. She was expected to begin work on numerous projects in tadem with her commitment to Hole.

This week, Geffen Records' president *Ed Rosenblatt* paid tribute to Kristen by issuing the following statement:

"We are greatly saddened to learn of Kristen Pfaff's death and extend our sympathy to her family, friends and the other members of Hole. She made a unique and vital contribution to the creative force of that band. She will be sorely missed."

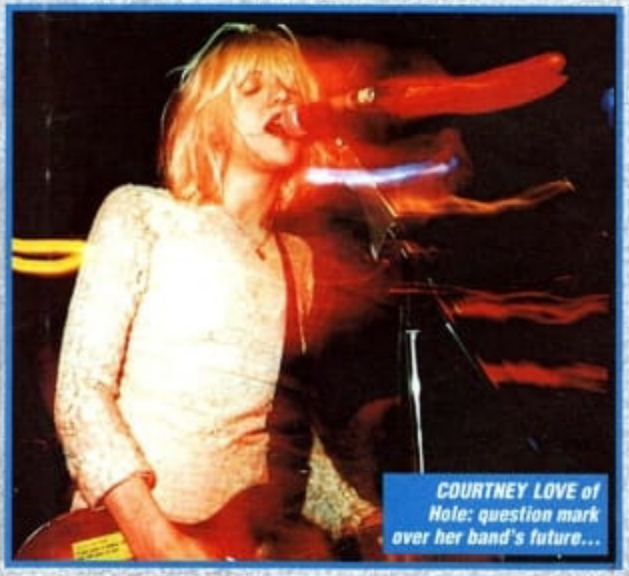
Pfaff joined Hole in 1993 and played on the band's last LP *'Live Through This'*, which was released earlier this year. Her death has placed a huge question mark over the band's future.

Meanwhile, according to a report in the *LA Times*, Courtney Love has been at the centre of more controversy concerning her use of computer online services in the US. These services allow the user to send written messages through a network which acts as an electronic mail service and which can be read by anyone who has subscribed to the network. The nature of this service means that it cannot be censored.

Love has allegedly been using the online network to attack various people, including her father and others who Courtney believes have been exploiting her husband's death. *Slim Moon*, the owner of the Kill Rock Stars label that released a compilation featuring one of Courtney's songs several years ago, has also been one of Love's targets.

Courtney has accused Moon of non-payment of royalties and has embarked on a war of words by transmitting messages to that effect, as well as notes of a more personal kind.

PHIL ALEXANDER



COURTNEY LOVE of Hole: question mark over her band's future...

TOUR MAYHEM NEWS

■ THE WINNERS of the *Kerrang!* Killerwatt/Terminal Talent Kompetition will now play their showcase sets at **Terminal Studios** on Thursday, July 14.

Although this is a month later than planned, the judges are delaying their final decision to enable full investigation of the deluge of demo tapes that followed the announcement of the kompetition in the Killerwatt supplement free with *K!* 492 on April 30.

Both MTV's **'Headbangers Ball'** and **Radio One FM**'s **'Sunday Rock Show'** have agreed to feature the contest and judge it. 'Headbangers Ball' will film the showcase, where the best four bands will each play a short set to a selected audience of record company A&R types, for later broadcast.

The Sunday Rock Show will be previewing the event by playing a track from each of the winning band's demos.

■ **BORN IDOL** promote their debut CD, **'Shrine'**, with dates at **London Fulham Swan** June 30, **High Wycombe Flint Cottage** July 9, **Oxford Dolly** 17. The band can be contacted at: **14, Kiln Lane, Ley Hill, Chesham, Bucks HP5 3QS.**

■ **THIEVING GYPSIES** play **Stiffkey Red Lion** July 1, **Thwaite Buck's Head** 8, **Harwich Billy** 16, **Great Yarmouth Ormesby Eel's Foot** 22.

■ **SPANK THE MONKEY** play **Gloucester Greyfriars** July 1. The band's demo is available for £2 from **PJ Moore** at: **201, Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucs.**

■ **STATUS QUO** have confirmed their only British festival appearance of 1994.

The veteran Boogie rockers headline the five-day **'Chelmsford Spectacular'** festival at **Chelmsford Hyland Park** on August 27. Tickets are now available, priced £17.50 from the Spectacular credit card hotline on **(0245) 495028** and all usual agents.

BON JOVI BASS CRISIS!

Bon Jovi bassman Alec John Such will tour, but not record with Jersey giants!

■ **BON JOVI** bassist **Alec John Such** has made the shock revelation that he will not be playing on the next Bon Jovi album.

However, Such was at pains to set the record straight with Mayhem, and confirm that he *will* be touring with New Jersey's favourite Rock cowboys.

Rumours circulated last week that the four-stringer had actually quit the band and been replaced by **Meat Loaf**'s tour-bassist **Kazim Sultan**. These rumours were fired by the fact that Sultan appeared with **Jon Bon Jovi** and **Richie Sambora** when the duo played at the prestigious **Brit Awards** a few months back.

In issue 483, Sambora told *Kerrang!* that Such couldn't be at the Brits with them, because he had "got himself involved with some shit that he couldn't get out of". He added: "We met Kazim on the flight over here, and said, 'D'ya wanna play bass?'!"

Such flew into London last week in preparation for the **'Night Of 100 Guitars'** event, held last weekend at **Wembley Arena** and organised by the **Gibson Guitar** company.

"The guys are writing songs right now, but I'm not doing the next record with them," he admitted. "I will be touring with them, however. In fact, we've just done the **MTV Movie Awards** where we played a song together and a couple of new videos for future consumption in Europe. Plus, we also went to the Bahamas to check out a studio over there and also to do a live telecast.

"I mean, I'm still in touch with what's going on, they send me tapes to ask my opinion and stuff, but the thing is I want time to smell the roses. I want to do some stuff for myself, like doing guitar clinics and basically jam with a bunch of other people."

How did the rest of the band react to your decision?

"Well, Jon always thinks I suck anyway!" Such chuckled. "I don't think they minded. It's just one of those things where I wanted to do a bunch of other things. See, the last time we were off the road I went and broke my collar bone in a motorcycle accident, so that meant I couldn't do anything.

"In fact, there was a period where I didn't know if I was going to be able to play the bass again. So, whilst Jon and Richie did albums, and **David (Bryan**, Jovi keyboardist) did his movie soundtrack stuff, I couldn't do anything. As a result, I felt they were ahead of me in that respect.

"It just felt right to look at other things. At one time, Bon Jovi was the one, the only, the be all and end all, but I'm finding there ARE other things."

Such's place for the next record will be taken by seasoned session man **Dewey McDonald** ("An excellent bass player. The real studio type," comments Alec) and not Sultan, "despite the fact that he has a cool name!".

One of the projects Such is currently involved with is the co-management and production of an as-yet-nameless band he's discovered in Florida, who he rates very highly indeed.

"They have the potential to soar like an eagle, but they don't realise it yet," he enthuses. "But it's up to them, otherwise they could just fly with all the other pigeons, y'know?"

Of his invitation to appear at the Wembley event, Such was clearly delighted to be given the chance to play with the likes of legendary **Free/Bad Company** vocalist **Paul Rodgers** and one-time **Journey** guitar hero **Neal Schon**. It helped that Such is endorsed by Gibson! His pipedream of playing on tour with **The Rolling Stones** remains just that, however.

"I didn't really put the word out that I was interested in the gig. It was just a dream I had. But I figured it would've been cool, when I was old and grey, to tell anyone who asked me, 'Well, who'd ya play with?', that I played with Bon Jovi and the Rolling Stones. I would be *too* cool. I'd have to kill myself!"

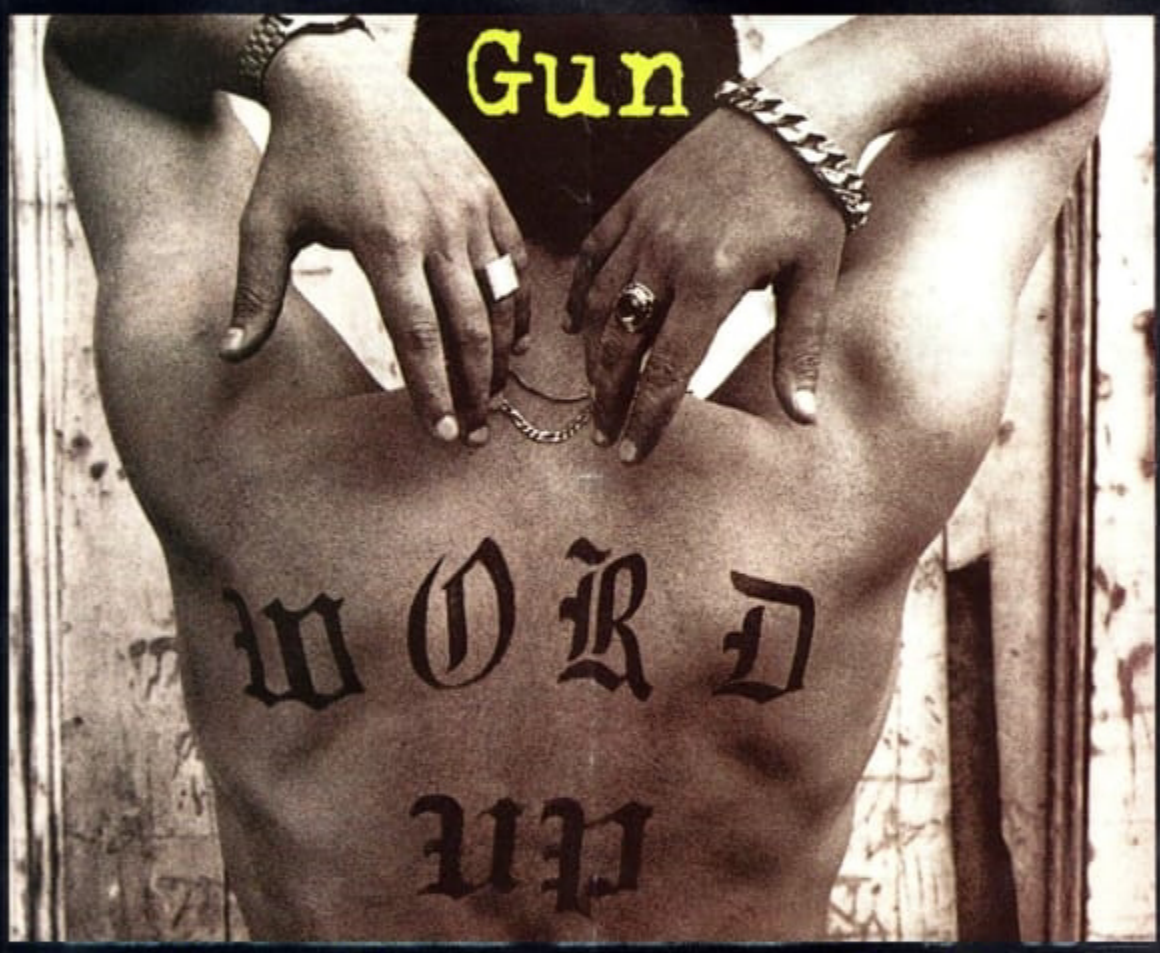
DAVE REYNOLDS

Pic Mark Weissfeld

BON JOVI (Alec John Such, bottom left): K! award winners, but bassist losers?

HMV

single of the week



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TOUR MAYHEM NEWS

MANIC STREET PREACHERS

■ **MANIC STREET PREACHERS** have lined up a UK tour for October.

The Welsh rockers – now operating through Epic Records as opposed to their former label Columbia – play the following dates:

Glasgow Barrowlands October 5, **Newcastle University** 6, **Norwich UEA** 7, **Wolverhampton Civic Hall** 8, **Cambridge Corn Exchange** 10, **Leicester De Montfort University** 11, **Portsmouth Guildhall** 12, **Manchester Academy** 13, **Sheffield Octagon** 15, **Leeds Town And Country** 16, **Nottingham Rock City** 17, **Exeter University** 18, **Cardiff Astoria** 20.

The band's as-yet-untitled third studio album is due to be released in late August, preceded by a single.

■ **VENA CAVA** continue their 'onslaught of the world' with the following shows:

Walsall Wheatsheaf July 2, **Threarwood Peakstones** 27, **Penkridge Monroe's** 31, **Bromsgrove Coach And Horses** August 6, **Birmingham Breedon Bar** 16, **Hanley Stage Door** 25.

■ **GIRLSCHOOL**, enduring Metal queens, have the following gigs lined up:

London New Cross Amersham Arms July 9, **Worthing Factory** 14, **Colchester Oliver Twist** 19, **Ipswich Carribean Club** 22, **Bradford Rio's** 29, **Derby Rock And Blues Festival** 30.

■ **HIGH 'N' MIGHTY**, Oxford Rock heroes, play **Oxford Dolly** July 3, **Oxford Venue** 30.

TAD DROPPED BY GIANT!

Seattle heavyweights dumped by record label, but vow to bludgeon ahead!

■ **TAD** have been dropped by Giant Records.

When the band's last album, **'Inhaler'**, was released on Mechanic/Giant in the US, there were genuine hopes that one of Seattle's forerunning bands would finally receive the recognition their mighty music deserved. They toured clubs with **Therapy?** before last Christmas, did a small pre-album tour with **Alice In Chains**, and have spent much of 1994 supporting **Soundgarden** throughout Europe and the US.

Roughly two weeks after their return from Europe in mid-April, Tad were told that Giant had decided to drop them, leaving the band with no distribution to speak of. The reason?

"Well, there wasn't one," sighs behemoth frontman **Tad Doyle** himself in quiet disgust. "We were told all along that there wouldn't be support for us to tour unless we could hook onto tours with the big acts. So we got onto the Soundgarden tour pretty much everywhere and we get back and Giant say, 'See ya!'..."

No good reason?

"No good f**king reason at all – they didn't give us a reason, and no one even called us. I tried calling various people at the office and always got, 'Well, they're out of town...'."

Or at 'lunch'.

"Yeah," laughs the vocalist/guitarist. "How do they find time to work with all that eatin'?! I think it would've been good manners to let us know why they were dropping us, especially when we had done everything they had asked of us.

"We've always done this for ourselves, to keep ourselves happy, and that's pretty much the extent of the reasons why we keep things going like we do. I mean, there are moments of rage, where I wanna shout 'F**k off!'. But I never really trash stuff or get violent; everybody goes through hard times, so why should I have a tantrum?

"No, I'm more of a whiner! But this band's big strength is that we're problem solvers. And thank the Lord, because if anyone got dealt the hands this band has had I think they would've buckled up and packed their bags a long time ago for greener pastures..."

Indeed, Tad's record of misfortune isn't good. On their last album, **'8 Way Santa'**, the band were sued by the couple whose obscure photo was used for the original album art. Then there was the time a corporate soft drink by the name of Pepsico came forward to plant their huge ugly boots into Tad over the song **'Jack Pepsi'** from the same album.

"Now I didn't mention who they were, did I?!" shrugs Doyle. "They won in a *biiig* way, honey!"

Did they win a lot of money?

"No, they didn't win money, but they basically squashed us like a bug and said, 'Shut up or die!'. I personally boycott their beverages now."

How disappointing is it to realise that Tad are once again going to have to make *another* album to be 'the' album that breaks them?

"Well, with 'Inhaler' the most disappointing thing was how long it took to come out. The songs were already a year old when we recorded them, by the time the album came out they were two and by the time we finished touring them they were three!"

Tad are currently being hotly chased by three companies which, due to the band's contractual situations, could not be revealed at this time. The band are fit and ready to go into the studio as soon as something is signed and sealed.

"This next record will be approached from a 'get-back-to-the-roots' style of recording. We've been in a lot of big fancy places and realise that there's a lot of digital doolickies that just aren't for us, one of 'em being compressors.

"The next record's gonna be wild as far as tone, sound and the overall grumbling, rumbling behemoth demeanour goes. It'll be about bludgeoning the current little old oaf to death and being bigger, stronger and better.

"My material personally deals a lot with relationships gone bad, of course. I'm sure Kurt (Danielson, bass) has some twisted shit to work in too. Plus, we'll be producing this next album ourselves and just working with a really great engineer."

A few of the titles ready to roll? **'Demon Seed'**, **'Carnival Ride Accident'**, **'Saint Torture'** and **'Red Tide Clam Bake'**, doubtless each with their own twisted little story. Hopefully we'll all get to hear these and others sooner than later.

"Well, we are ready-to-go people – we're the perpetual hurry up and wait band!"

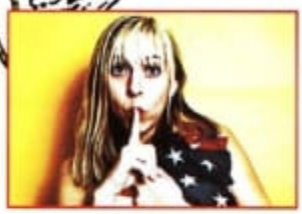
STEFFAN CHIRAZI

Pic: Ross Halfin

TAD DOYLE: "Whaddaya mean, we got dropped?!"

COAST TO COAST!

THE HOTTEST US NEWS... AS IT HAPPENS



LISA JOHNSON IN LOS ANGELES

It's Punk Rock, corporate puppetry, Rollins and indecent exposure, hot off the press from LA!

WEENED ON RADIO!

One well-known LA local radio station recently hosted a fabulous festival dubbed **'The Weenie Roast'** (as in hot dog!). Among the 13 acts performing were **CANDLEBOX, COUNTING CROWS, AFGHAN WHIGS, ROLLINS BAND, THE OFFSPRING** and **GREEN DAY.** All the bands were so incredible, it's hard to say who was best!

Newcomers The Offspring inspired the loudest reaction from the 16,000-plus capacity crowd. The group's latest album, **'Smash'**, is tearing up the charts thanks to the success of two radio-friendly tracks **'Come Out And Play'** and **'Self-Esteem'**.

Henry Rollins might seem mean and scary, but he must have quite a good sense of humour. At the Weenie Roast, one poster poked fun at the big man. Alongside a picture of Rollins were the words, 'My name is Henry Corporate Puppet RollinS. I'm a big star now! I know just how to capitalise on pseudo non-conformist teens!'...

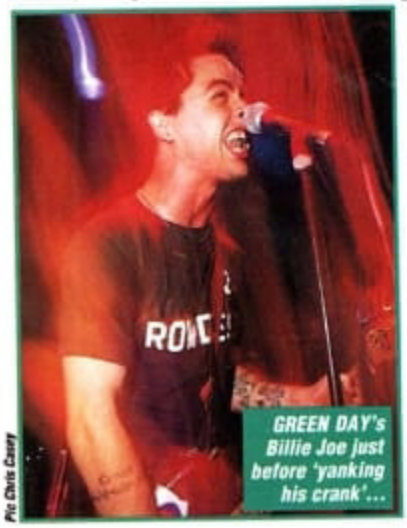
GREEN HELL!

While preparing for the Weenie Roast, I didn't think I'd actually see one (a weenie, as in male member!). Boy, was I wrong!...

New single **'Longview'** couldn't possibly be in reference to what **GREEN DAY** singer **Billie Joe** pulled from his pants, could it? Cos he didn't just pull it out, he yanked his crank for a good portion of the aforementioned radio hit! Squeals, howls and screams ensued – and I'm sure the crowd reacted the same way!

Green Day are superb at acting up the reluctant-Pop-star, 'Hey, we're Punk Rock!' attitude. Oh please, with an album, **'Dookie'**, with sales over 500,000 in the US and pushing towards Platinum, save it for your accountants!

In fact, to celebrate 'Dookie's Gold status, the band's label Reprise took out an ad in various trade publications. The ad congratulates the band on "selling a shitload of Dookie", with a drawing of three dogs smoking "hand-rolled cigarettes" and "looking confused"...



GREEN DAY's Billie Joe just before 'yanking his crank'...

Pic Chris Casey

ELVIS WAS A YES MAN!

Surely the British press has sensationalised the auction of **ELVIS PRESLEY** memorabilia which recently took place in Las Vegas. We all know his American Express card went for $30,000. But did you know that his touring case was adorned with with a multitude of Rock stickers? One of those stickers was for **Yes**, of all bands. Never knew Elvis was a fan!

Too bad he won't be around for Yes' Stateside tour this Summer. Or *will* he?

the WILDHEARTS

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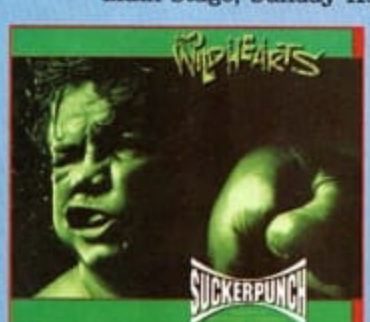


EXPLICIT

"Suckerpunch" is on the album "Earth Vs. The Wildhearts"

LP ✗ MC ✗ CD

For further Wildhearts info send S.A.E. to:
7 Vicarage Road, Wednesbury, WS10 9BA.

TOUR MAYHEM NEWS

■ **TOOL**, fresh from their **Glastonbury** date last weekend, have announced the following UK dates to coincide with new single **'Sober'**.

They play **Norwich Waterfront** July 12, **Northampton Roadmenders** 13, **Manchester University** 15, **Leeds Metropolitan University** 16, **Sheffield Leadmill** 17, **Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall** 19, **Bristol Bierkeller** 20, **London Shepherd's Bush Empire** 21, **Nottingham Rock City** 25, **Newcastle Riverside** 26, **Glasgow Garage** 27.

■ THE FIRST UK **Manowar** convention takes place at **Leeds Wellesley Hotel** August 7. Tickets at £4 each are available from the band's fan club, **'Army Of Immortals'**.

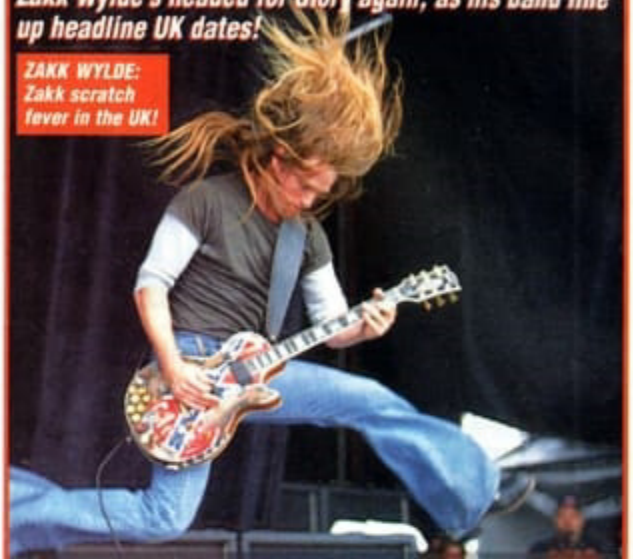
■ A NAME band is being sought to headline a charity gig for the grant-maintained **Appledore School**. The event will take place at the **Southampton Guidhall** on either October 4, 11, 13, 17, 26 or 29 – depending on the headline act. A headline act capable of drawing a crowd of at least 2,000 would be ideal.

Interested parties should contact **Amanda Jackson** at: **Woodlea, 7 Southwood Avenue, Walkford, Christchurch, Dorset.** Amanda can also be contacted at **(0202) 723000** in the daytime and **(0425) 274052** in the evenings.

TOOL: soberin' up in July!

HERE COMES THE PRIDE!

Zakk Wylde's headed for Glory again, as his band line up headline UK dates!



ZAKK WYLDE: Zakk scratch fever in the UK!

Pic Steve Schofield

■ **PRIDE & GLORY** have lined up a clutch of UK headline dates, most taking place prior to their imminent support dates with **Whitesnake**.

Zakk Wylde and the boys top the bill at the following shows, with prices varying between £4.50 and £6.50: **Glasgow Cathouse** July 14, **Nottingham Rock City** 15, **Bristol Mauretania** 17, **Bradford Rio's** 20. Support acts have yet to be confirmed.

In addition, an extra Whitesnake date has been announced. **David Coverdale** and the boys will now also be sliding it in at **Wolverhampton Civic Hall** July 19.

The New Single
'The River'
Out 4 July CD / 12"

Also available the album
'Splendor Solis'

"Flirting with Genius" Kerrang KKKK
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Chrysalis

For more information regarding future live dates or releases, please send a postcard with your name and address to: THE TEA PARTY, FREEPOST, PO BOX 904, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS, HP12 4BR

PAWN TO BE WILD!

Ex-Guns axeman Gilby Clarke returns with killer solo LP!

■ **GILBY CLARKE**, the rhythm guitarist recently fired from **Guns N' Roses** by volatile frontman **Axl Rose**, releases his first solo album through Virgin on July 25.

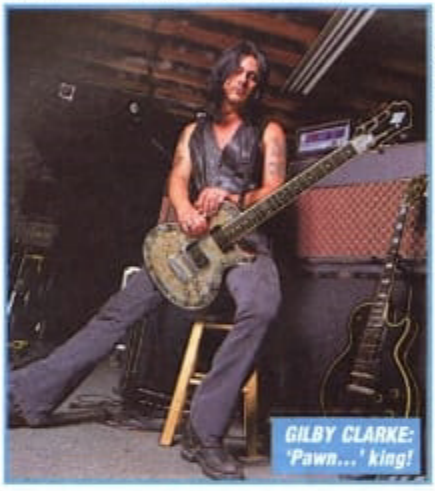
Titled **'Pawn Shop Guitars'**, the album features the following tracks:

'Cure Me... Or Kill Me', 'Black', 'Tijuana Jail', 'Skin And Bones', 'Johanna's Chopper', 'Let's Get Lost', 'Pawnshop Guitar', 'Dead Flowers', 'Jail Guitar Doors', 'Hunting Dogs', 'Shut Up'.

Two of the tracks are covers. 'Jail Guitar Doors' is an obscure B-side by seminal English Punks **The Clash**, while 'Dead Flowers' was recorded by **The Rolling Stones** on their classic **'Sticky Fingers'** album. Ironically, the latter features a vocal duet between Gilby and Axl!

In fact, all of Gilby's former GN'R bandmates appear on 'Pawn Shop Guitars' – and although he's out of Guns N' Roses, Gilby is still working with Guns axeman **Slash** on the latter's debut solo album, which he's currently recording in LA!

Plus, in hot news just in from *Kerrang!* scribe **Lisa Johnson**, Gilby's wife **Daniella Clarke** has just given birth to a beautiful baby girl named **Francesca** on June 23. Big *Kerrang!* kongrats all round!



Pic Neil Zlozower

GILBY CLARKE: 'Pawn...' king!

RECORD MAYHEM RELEASES

■ **ANNIHILATOR** release a 75-minute compilation of rare and previously unreleased material, "tying up the loose ends of the band's recording career", through Roadrunner on July 4.

Entitled **'Bag Of Tricks'**, it contains the following tracks:

'Alison Hell (Remastered)', 'Phantasmagoria (Demo)', 'Back To The Crypt', 'Gallery', 'Human Insecticide (Live)', 'The Fun Palace (Extended)', 'W.T.Y.D. (Live)', 'Word Salad (Live)', 'Live Wire (Live)', 'Knight Jumps Queen (Demo)', 'Fantastic Things', 'Bats In The Belfry (Demo)', 'Evil Appetite', 'Gallery '86', 'Alison Hell '86', 'Phantasmagoria '86'.

Quite remarkably, only guitarist **Jeff Waters** and **Aaron Randall** (singer on last year's **'Set The World On Fire'** opus) remain in Annihilator at present.

■ **BLACK MARK PRODUCTIONS** have some more nasty releases on the way.

Crawling from this grave this Summer are **Edge Of Sanity**'s **'Until Eternity Ends'** EP, **Scum**'s **'Mother Nature'** album (both out now), **Rosicrucian**'s **'No Cause For Celebration'** album, **Agressor**'s **'Symposium Of Rebirth'** album, **Cemetary**'s **'Black Vanity'** album (due in August), **Edge Of Sanity**'s **'Purgatory Afterglow'** album (September).

And promised in October is **Bathory**'s seventh studio album!

■ **FATES WARNING**, veteran Prog Metallers, release their sixth album, **'Inside Out'** this week.

■ **LMS**, the proud recipients of four Ks recently, now have their **'Desperately Seeking Satan'** album available on mail order.

Send a cheque or postal order for £6 to: **LMS, Wallcreeper Records, PO Box 553, Belfast, BT1 1HZ.**

REVEREND HORTON HEAT

The rootin', tootin' Reverend Horton Heat are back! Hide the Wild Turkey!

Pic Chris Carey

■ **REVEREND HORTON HEAT** are bad-ass. They play heavy, shit-kickin', energised rock 'n' roll music – Rockabilly with demon Thrash beats, **AC/DC** stomps, **Danzig**-ian crooning and a whole lot more.

"I *love* loud, fast music!" states lead **Rev Jim Heath** conclusively, a Camel unfiltered between his fingers and chuckling the bad-ass chuckle of a bad-ass man.

"I always liked that stuff. Hell, I was into **Alice Cooper, Black Sabbath,** all that heavy stuff, man. It was cool!"

This vocalist/guitarist is joined in Reverend Horton Heat by **Taz** (drums) and **Jimbo** on the stand-up bass! Their second album is released on July 4. Produced by **Ministry/Revolting Cocks** man **Al Jourgensen**, it's to be titled **'Liquor In The Front'**. Tracks include **'Baddest Of The Bad', 'Cruisin' For A Bruisin' ', 'Liquor Beer And Wine', 'I Can't Surf', 'Rockin' Dog', 'Jezebel', 'The Entertainer'** and **'Yeah Right'.**

The first Reverend album (**'The Full Custom Gospel Sounds Of Reverend Horton Heat'**) was produced by the **Butthole Surfers' Gibby Haines**. Both he and Jourgensen have fallen at the feet of the Reverend in near worship!

There's not an ounce of politically correct preaching to be sniffed here, especially not on 'Liquor...'. This is about good ole times, simple pleasures, simple pursuits, simple feelings. Sex. Cars. Booze. Love. Brawls. *Baaad*-ass, buddy...

"I ain't sayin' there ain't no trouble in the world," says Heath, "But it isn't my thing to write about them. I take what you said as a compliment and I'd like to thank you very much!"

Heath spent his early teenage years in Texas juvenile correctional facilities for a variety of small-but-mean and bad-ass things he doesn't care to detail. All that counts for him is the fact that he learnt to play a mean guitar with a mean sound.

"I use two Fender 50 watt amps," he says proudly. "Those 100-watt ones distort and get all fuzzy. Two 50s – hell, you can turn 'em up all the way and it sounds sweet!"

Heath formed the band with Taz and Jimbo in 1987. Having inked a deal with SubPop Records, they never looked further than the road, which the Heat still roll along for at least 200 shows a year.

The Sex Pistols were the first Punk band to ever dial right into Heath's soul. But Jim Heath's life changed the night he went to see **The Cramps** in Dallas in '79.

"I didn't know what to expect at all! They were up there with these chicks who could hardly play, doin' Blues standards, but they did 'em their way and it was so wild!

"After a while, it kinda clicked. I just thought, 'Man, this is so cool! They do this '50s rockabilly rock 'n' roll thing, but it's still Punk Rock and this guy's stickin' the mike in his pants, then in his mouth. God, I hope he don't get a disease or somethin'!'.

"The gig was in a Heavy Metal bar, so everybody's yellin', 'Boooo, f**k you, play some motherf**kin' **Kansas**!'...

"There was a rumble in the parking lot between the punks and the redneck Heavy Metal guys. The cops showed up and ran The Cramps outta town!

"I was sittin' there, just thinkin' about my surroundings and everything, and I realised I was dangerously close to becoming a redneck guy at that point in my life. I decided it'd be a lot better to hang out with the Punk Rock crowd.

"I mean, I love all sorts of music, and I think Heavy Metal's cool. But that night changed my life!"

Dangerously twisted and gloriously addictive, Reverend Horton Heat will save your wretched soul from boredom, dismay and despair.

They'll also kick your *(baaaad)* ass...

STEFFAN CHIRAZI

'AT THE GATES have achieved one helluva malicious masterpiece'...'A gateway to Death Metal nirvana.' - Barney (Napalm Death), Ultrakill! 5/5

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CROWN IN TOWN!

US Melodic Rock kings back and blasting in Blighty!

■ **CROWN OF THORNS**, America's new Hard Rock heroes, return to Britain for an extensive tour in July, following their live debut here at the **London Marquee** club back in April.

The quartet play the following dates:

Newcastle Riverside July 19, **Wigan Maxime's** 20, **Buckley Tivoli** 21, **Bradford Rio's** 22, **Dudley JB's** 23, **Workington Carnegie Theatre** 25, **Glasgow Cathouse** 26, **Birkenhead Stairways** 27, **Norwich Oval Rockhouse** 29, **Milton Keynes Woughton Centre** 30, **Plymouth Britannia Inn** 31, **Bristol Bierkeller August** 1, **London Marquee** 2 and **Southend Esplanade** 3.

"Since playing The Marquee, our aim has just been to get back to the UK and hammer away," lead guitarist **Micki 'Gypsy Cowboy' Free** told Mayhem. "We can't wait to get out there!

"What I particularly like about Britain is that you either make it or break it, but you don't have to be like **Pearl Jam**..."

Free is joined in Crown Of Thorns by **Jean Beauvoir** (vocals/guitar), **Michael Paige** (bass) and once again joining them on tour will be **Mother's Finest** drummer **Dion Derek**, in place of the otherwise engaged **Tony Thompson.**

To coincide with the tour, Now And Then Records release **'Hike It Up'** (taken from the band's eponymous debut album) as a single on July 11, backed with three previously unreleased songs. These are **'The Night'**, **'Downed'** and **'Little Stone House'.**

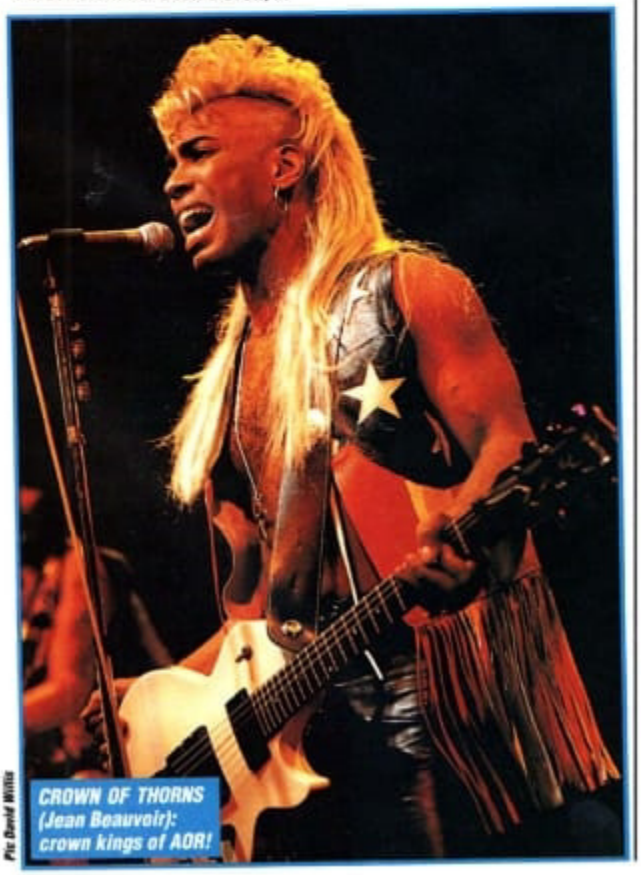
"Jean and I wrote 25 songs for the first album," recalls Free. "We actually went through hell pickin' the record. There was just so much stuff left over!

"The three unreleased tracks that'll be on the single come from a whole host of stuff we have lying around."

Having heard a good selection of some 12 other songs that have yet to see the light of day, I can safely say that the band probably have an even better album of material on the back-burner than their classic debut!

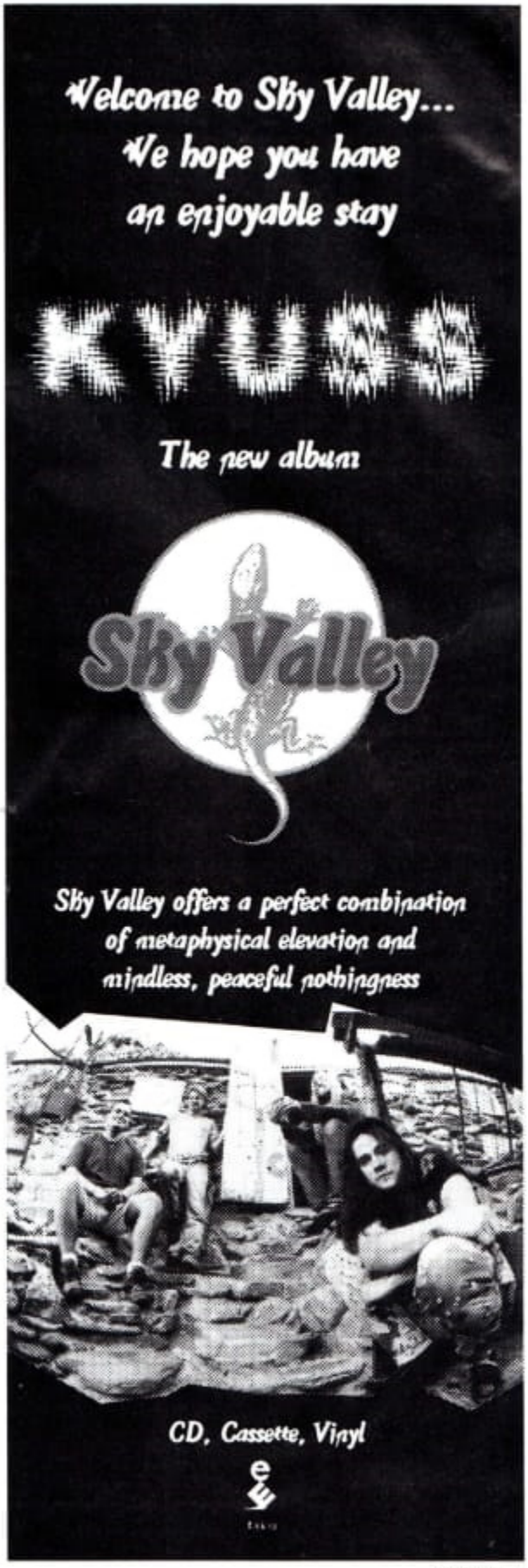
Songs like **'The Victim'**, **'Straight To My Head'** (the best song COT have penned, with greater Rock club dance-floor appeal than even 'Hike It Up'!), **'Hang On Sugar'** and **'Man On A Tightrope'** deserve far more than just be left lying in Micki's tape box!

DAVE REYNOLDS



Pic Derek Wilkie

CROWN OF THORNS (Jean Beauvoir): crown kings of AOR!



RECORD MAYHEM RELEASES

■ **THE ORGANIZATION**, the band featuring ex-**Death Angel** members, finally release their debut album in the UK through Music For Nations/Bulletproof on July 4.

'Free Burning' was recorded in February '93, but the San Franciscans experienced trouble securing a full European release.

■ **DESULTORY**, Swedish Death Metallers, release their second album through Music For Nations/Metal Blade, July 4.

'Bitterness' was once again recorded at **Sunlight Studios** with producer **Tomas Skogsberg.**

Claims guitarist **Stefan Poge**: "We think we'll get attention because we try to do things a little differently to most Swedish bands. We keep our music alive, catchy and never predictable!"

■ **'TOTAL DEVOTION'** is a new Industrial compilation released through the Music For Nations subsidiary Devotion on July 25.

It features the following tracks: **Schnitt Acht 'Rage', Chemlab 'Codeine, Glue And You', Pigface 'Chikasaw', Revolting Cocks 'Do Ya Think I'm Sexy?', Sugarsmack 'Boomerang', Skrew 'Picasso Trigger', Evil Mothers 'Never Trust A John', Deep Throat 'Cut And Divide', Pigface 'F**k It Up', Lab Report 'Open Your Mind'.**

REVCO (Al Jourgensen and Paul Barker): showin' their total Devotion!

Pic Kristin Callahan

NEXT OF SKIN!

Brit rockers shine on with tour/new single action!

■ **SKIN** have lined up some further UK tour dates, plus a new single to coincide.

The rising rockers play the following dates:

Norwich Oval Rock House July 19, **Southend Esplanade** 20, **St Albans Arena** 22, **Blackburn King George's** 23, **Edinburgh Venue** 25, **Aberdeen Lemon Tree** 26, **Dundee Oscar's** 27, **Glasgow Garage** 28, **London Kentish Town Forum** 30, **Ipswich Corn Exchange** 31, **Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall** August 1, **Hull Tower** 3, **Birmingham Irish Centre** 4, **Blackwood Institute** 6, **Bristol Bierkeller** 7, **Bradford Rio's** 9, **Liverpool Krazy House** 10, **Middlesborough Town Hall** 11, **Nottingham Rock City** 12.

'Tower Of Strength' is the follow-up single to Skin's Top 20 **'Money EP'**. Released July 11, it comes in four formats, containing as extra exclusive tracks the band's entire Second Stage set at this year's **Donington** festival!

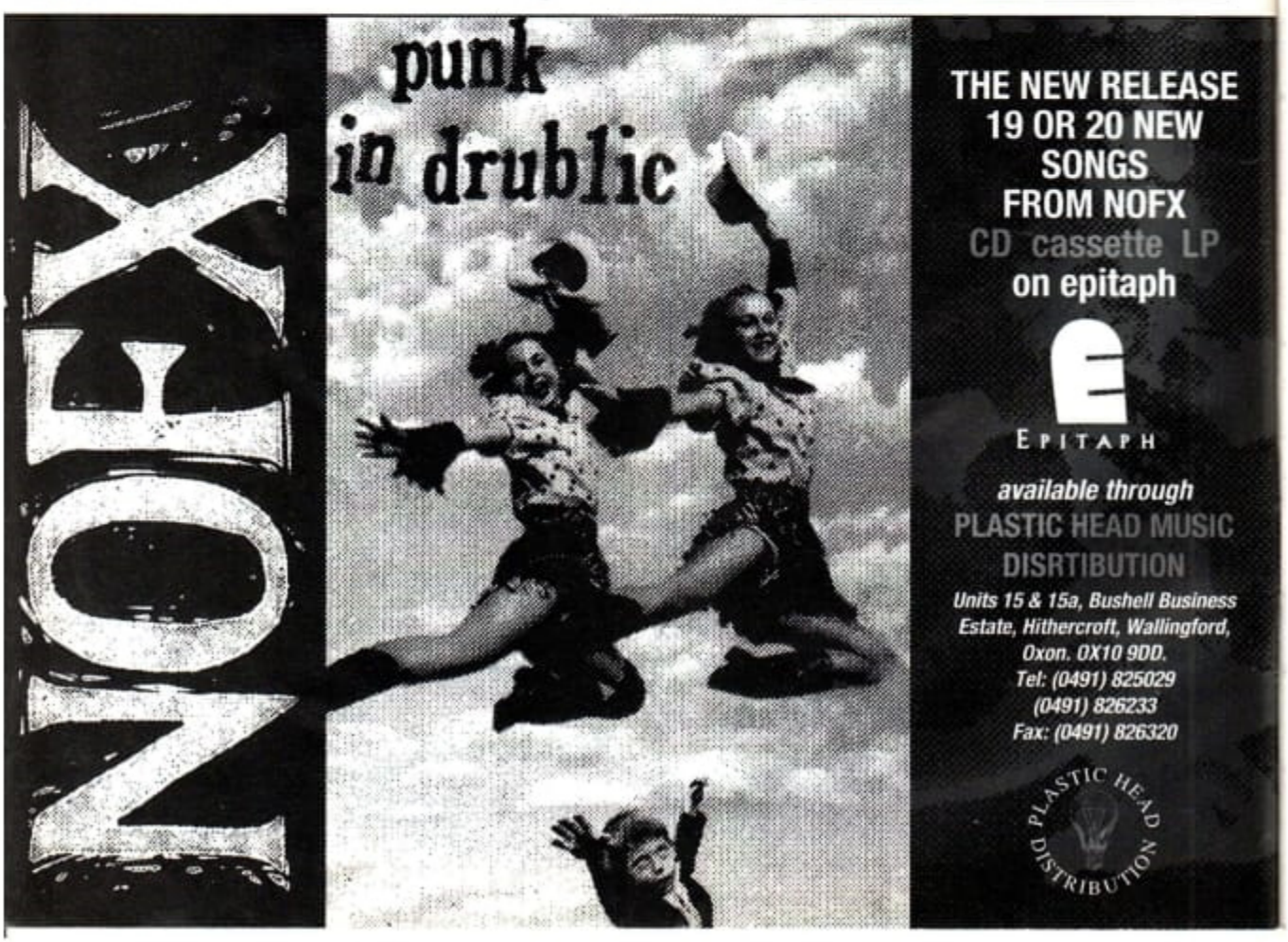
CD One comes in a digipak with space also for CD Two. Besides 'Tower Of Strength', it features live versions of **'Money', 'Shine Your Light'** and **'Colourblind'.**

CD Two offers 'Tower Of Strength' (studio and live) plus live **'Look But Don't Touch'** and **'Unbelievable'.**

The 12-inch with gatefold sleeve contains the same tracks as CD One, while the cassette adds the live 'Look But Don't Touch' and 'Unbelievable'. All formats contain exclusive photos taken at Donington.

SKIN's Neville MacDonald cracks open some cans to celebrate single/tour frenzy!

Pic David Wilkie



GREETINGS FROM STUDIOVILLE!

Ginger and Co get schizo in Surrey with mammoth second LP!

■ **THE WILDHEARTS** are hard at work on their second album.

Work at **Comforts Place Studio** in the Surrey countryside has been underway for a number of weeks, with producer **Mark Dodson** (**Suicidal Tendencies/Anthrax**) at the controls. Backing tracks have been largely completed for 18 songs, and rough vocals have been laid down on a handful.

These include the likely first single, **'If Love Is Like A Love-Bank, I Want An Overdraft'**, and the B-side **'Sky Babies'**. The latter track is a 10-minute insight into the world of aliens and UFOs – a subject which has fascinated frontman **Ginger** for some time.

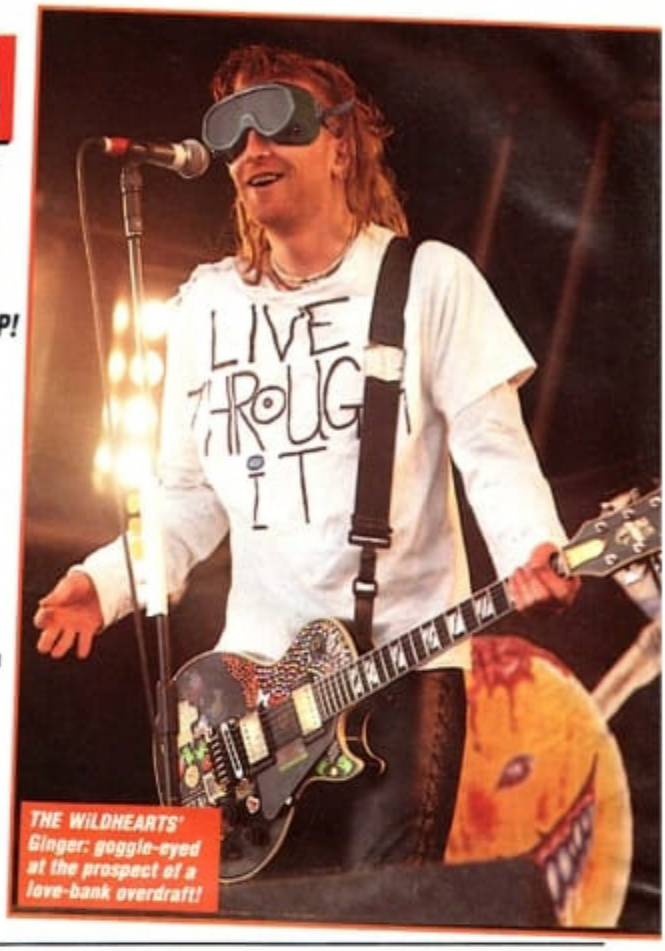
The single is slated for an early September release through East West/Bronze, shortly after The Wildhearts' Main Stage appearance at this year's **Reading Festival** on Sunday August 28. Strangely enough, the single may well not appear on the album!

Working titles of other new tracks include **'Be My Drug'**, **'Inglorious'** (these two are supposedly the heaviest things the band have done), **'I Want To Go Where The People Go'**, **'Gettin' It'** and **'Schizophonic'**, which Ginger mentioned in his joint *Kl* cover story with **The Almighty's Ricky Warwick**, back in issue 462.

One particularly bizarre tune, **'Geordie In Wonderland'**, features a mandolin solo!

The massive volume of material written for this album reflects Ginger's well-documented yearning to release two records a year, *à la* **The Beatles**. He once told *Kerrang!*: "Song writing's the easiest thing in the world!"

Mike 'Spike' Drake, the man who handled last year's **'Earth Versus The Wildhearts'**, will mix the material in July. An Autumn release is planned.



THE WILDHEARTS' Ginger: goggle-eyed at the prospect of a love-bank overdraft!

Pic Paul Harries

KONCERTZ

HELMET
KERBDOG, UNDERSTAND

The University, Manchester
Saturday, June 18

UNDERSTAND HAVE gotta be the hardest working British band around at the moment. Having seemingly occupied every support slot going, it's been harder to avoid 'em than it has been to catch 'em! Tonight they give it their best in front of a subdued crowd that'd barely had time to visit the bar... not that getting drunk is what this lot are about! Understand sound impressively chunky. Not a million miles away from Helmet, but more recalling Fugazi's wired scratchiness.

Kerbdog take the stage dressed patriotically in 'Ireland – World Cup '94' shirts. (As it turns out, Kerbdog's sartorial audacity is totally justified. By the end of the night, Jack Charlton's lot had sunk Italy 1-0!). What Kerbdog do with their guitars is pretty obvious as well. That is, 'Grunge' is a label that you could stick on these guys and it wouldn't fall off. But who's complaining? On this form, no one. Kerbdog kick some energy into the proceedings with a few carefully chosen chords, solid melodies, and enough bouncing around – courtesy of guitarist Billy Dalton and bassist Colin Fennelly – to give Sick Of It All a run for their money. Nothing too difficult to grasp: they know how to rock, deliver it without trying too hard, and solicit the correct response in the slam-pit.

Casting a glance across the not-so-swelling throng, Page Hamilton gently plucks the jazzy licks that form into 'Beautiful Love', revealing a softer side of Helmet (and he ain't telling fibs about being a hideously talented crossover guitar maestro, either!), before launching into 'Judgment Night's 'Just Another Victim' in the more customary steamroller style. It's all gargantuan chords, cavernous bottom-end and that irritating snare drum sound that cuts right through everything.

There was a time when Helmet were considered immensely Metal for an underground noise band; but, having stuck to their vision, Metal has come to *them*, and their sermons on heaviness have been absorbed by bands too numerous to mention. It's not hard to see why, cos it's an impressive *thunk* that Helmet deliver – a lean, cerebral take on Hard Rock, stripped of all its inessentials, robbed of all its posing, posturing and golden locks, cleansed of all fretboard wanking and operatic caterwauling. Which doesn't leave much to look at or to listen to!

Within the restrictions set by their minimalist ethos, Helmet really have to make everything count – and that's not always the case. 'Unsung' is spectacular, the single 'Biscuits For Smut' and its big, sucking bassline does the business too, and 'Rollo' is another highlight from the 'Betty' album. But they need a little more such material to break the monotony. Helmet rock too, but it's sometimes a bit too much the same hit over and over...

MEANY

HELMET (Page Hamilton, main pic): brainbox Hard Rock! KERBDOG (Colin Fennelly, above): not difficult to grasp!

KONCERT KWOTA

ELECTROCUTION

HIGH VOLTAGE

STATIC

SHORT CIRCUIT

FLAT BATTERY

THE BIG

New York noise merchants

Pic Meany

PRONG (Tommy Victor): playing for the hate team!

APPLE'S HARD CORE!

slam the pedal to the Metal in a double UK live assault!

PRONG
LIFE OF AGONY, THE OBSESSED

Rock City, Nottingham
Tuesday, June 21

IT'S A tough life, slugging away as the eternal support act. Sadly, that seems to be The Obsessed's destiny. Wino and his Washington biker brood probably don't care. They're so far down in the bowels of Rock, it's a wonder they've found the stage.

Think of the Melvins jamming to Ozzy-era Sabbath, and you're about there. Great, doomy riffs topple one on top of the other, the gliding bass looping around the drums as the trio plough through the choicest cuts from the current 'The Church Within' opus. Seriously heavy though never cumbersome, a thunderous 'To Protect And Serve' highlights Wino's total guitar mastery: he makes one Gibson sound like an entire roomful. Pounding retro Rock played by men who could almost have been doing it since the early '70s, for those who probably weren't even *born* in the early '70s, The Obsessed aren't going anywhere, but they're sure as hell enjoying the ride.

Life Of Agony's entrance seems to assume that all you need these days is a Brooklyn postcode and a few spat-out "motherf**kas!", and your Hardcore credibility is supposedly assured. Wrong!

As shown on the 'River Runs Red' album, Life Of Agony know how to peel off those Biohazard-style reams of crunching guitar and that rhythm section that mugs you and pummels you in the stomach. Opener 'Respect' powers in on a great wash of Noo Yawk rifferama – then Keith Caputo opens his mouth. His voice is... an acquired taste. The majority here tonight spat it out after one mouthful.

Caputo looks like a Muppet Sid Vicious, and sounds as if he's straining to launch the New Wave Of Goth Hardcore. It's not that Life Of Agony don't sound fluid and stinging on the LP's title track or 'This Time' (by far the best song in their set, with a colossal guitar hook and MTV-friendly chorus), but by the driving 'Through And Through', Life Of Agony have lost the game to all but a handful of Hardcore diehards at stage front.

"WE'RE F**KING PRONG!" salutes Tommy Victor to a sea of clenched fists as New York's heaviest break sweat into 'Beg To Differ'. From then – intermittent PA cut-outs aside – Prong are stranglingly tight and fierce, galloping through the majority of the immense 'Cleansing' album as if their lives depend on it. 'Whose Fist Is This Anyway?' boxes your ears until they're ringing; 'Cut-Rate' wields Victor's huge, slicing guitar riffs like a machete, and 'Broken Peace' feels like being run over by a steam engine. It's all unfeasibly heavy, rolled along by Raven's killer bass and the boulders of Ted Parsons' awesome drumming. Without the ex-Swans man, Prong would only be half the marauding tank of an outfit they are.

But it's soon apparent that Prong are using large amounts of sampled guitar in the mix to augment Tommy Victor's full-frontal assault. If they need an extra guitarist that badly, why not get a real one? Victor even adopts a few Dio-esque finger poses! Surely the sheer strength of Prong's material and their unadulterated anger are more than capable of carrying their set without these unnecessary mannerisms?

But ultimately, the power of Prong's songwriting and the weight of 'Cleansing's songs are impossible to resist: the sheer suppressed fury seeping from the stage could strip the skin from your face. It won't be long before we're all playing for the hate team!

CLARE DOWSE

Pic: Paul Harries

KONCERTZ

'HEADBANGERS' BALL!

MOTÖRHEAD
STONEBIRD

Kentish Town Forum, London
Sunday, June 19

MOTÖRHEAD ARE in desperate need of a support band who sound like they formed some time this century. Alas, Stonebird, with their competent but oh-so-dull retro Rock, are not that band.

But then again, the fact that Motörhead are actually playing in the UK and it's not sodding Christmas is enough to get most folks fired up this evening – including the moron who nearly got the show stopped before it had even started by throwing things at Lemmy. Mr Kilminster, quite rightly, says that he's here to play rock 'n' roll and not be used for target practice, and thus the band bludgeon their way through 'Ace Of Spades' and 'Traitor' to kick off a truly splendid set.

Yeah, Motörhead are back, and Motörhead are *very* loud! There are few hints tonight that we might be watching a band who have been around 19 years – except perhaps, for a totally unnecessary drum solo (Mikkey Dee is a good drummer, we don't need proof), and the fact that some of these classics like 'Bomber' and 'Metropolis' are older than some of the audience!

Motörhead have largely recaptured the attitude that made them so special for such a long time. Würzel plays like a 17-year-old on the run from borstal, Lemmy is as obstinate as ever, Dee's like a runaway train and Phil Campbell... well, Campbell appears to have lost the plot entirely, and sadly seems to be auditioning for the part of Captain Sensible! I mean, it's been *10 years* since 'No Remorse', and he's about as much a part of the mighty 'Head as Norma Major!

As they wind things up with Nugent's 'Cat Scratch Fever' and the bowel-splitting 'Overkill', it seems almost funny that for some, this will be their first ever Motörhead gig. What better way to lose your virginity? Kiss goodbye to your hearing!

MÖRAT

MOTÖRHEAD (Lemmy): kiss yer eardrums goodbye!

Pic: Paul Harries

KKKK-Kerrang! Relevant & defiant! The English Dogs Bite - Mörat

English Dogs

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BLIND MELON

Kentish Town Forum, London
Tuesday, June 21

AFTER SPENDING the best part of two years on the road, Blind Melon are suffering. Tonight, despite the near-ecstatic reception they receive, the quintet look like a burnt-out shell.

The most noticeable near-casualty is Shannon Hoon. Over the course of 20 months, Hoon has caught the tortured frontman's disease; all balled-up gestures and mumbled introductions. There are still moments where he's the absolute centre of attention – throwing himself around in an apparent daze, holding onto that rasping voice like a lifeline – but there are also times when he makes for a bored, weary, confused figure.

Blind Melon's set is similarly fractured. Some of the songs – notably 'Tones Of Home' and 'Dear Ol' Dad' – are now sounding old and stale, their jagged edges blunted by over-exposure. They try to crawl into others to dig out something fresh, only to emerge, more often than not, bloated with self-indulgent stodge. 'Deserted' stumbles along like a cripple, where once it rode the tightest of grooves. 'I Wonder' is withered and worn. The only time they do strike gold, wringing something stark and haunted out of 'No Rain', their guts dry up and they fall back on the easiest of options, playing the song straight to calm the strained silence that greeted its twisted start.

There are, of course, traces of the *real* Blind Melon amongst the wreckage. 'Change' is as warm as a coal fire, while 'Paper Scratcher' is Melon in microcosm; the mellow vibe splintered by Hoon's semi-conscious ravings. And, of the three or four new songs they play, 'Alone' is both the most relaxed and insistent, the heart of the tune slowly unravelling from Rogers Stevens' and Christopher Thorn's snaking guitars.

By the time they're loosely working their way around the Velvet Underground's 'Lisa Says' and John Lennon's 'Working Class Hero' for an encore, though, Shannon Hoon's smile is more one of relief than pleasure. He and his band need a break.

PAUL REES

BLIND MELON (Shannon Hoon): burnt out?

Pic Larry Baker

Mutha's Day Out

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Chrysalis

ALSO AVAILABLE THE MUTHA'S DAY OUT ALBUM: MY SOUL IS WET

THE RAINBOW'S END!

DIO
LOVE/HATE

The Beacon Theatre, New York
Thursday, June 9

WHILE EVERY other normal New Yorker was watching the national hockey finals, a scant few hundred of us made our way to The Beacon Theatre to see Ronnie James Dio live for one last time. You heard me. To watch this man go through the same old motions and play the same old songs, with a rotten band behind him and a two-thirds empty hall in front of him, was to watch the last death throes of a once glorious but now pathetic career.

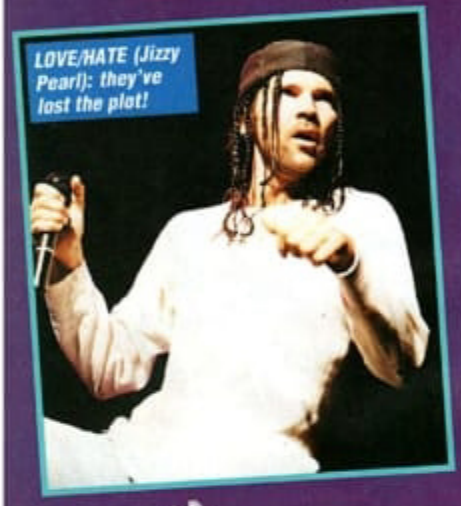
Love/Hate at least seemed to have fun, even though the material from their last album 'Let's Rumble' only reinforces the suspicion that their writing dried up after their debut. Skid and Jizzy jerk about the stage looking like rock 'n' roll ragamuffins, and the latter coaxes full power out of his scratchy, impossibly high vocals. Love/Hate may just be an overlooked oddity at this point, but you always remember 'em.

As for the Old Man, what can you say about a set that ran for barely an hour, yet somehow found time for the most awful guitar and drum solos *in the world*? What do you say about a show where Vinnie Appice – one of the world's worst percussionists – even gets a drum solo? And that was before the guitar solo from Tracy G....

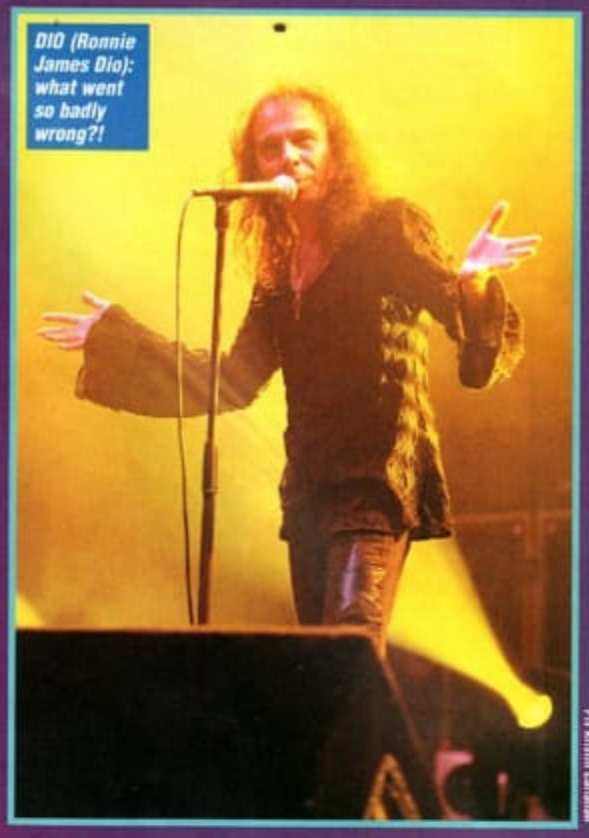
As for Dio himself, he's reduced his stage mannerisms down to the bare essentials, which means he forks the Evil Eye at us about 200 times during the course of 10 songs. The five selections from 'Strange Highways' sound exactly like the warmed-over rehashes that they are, and even 'Last In Line', 'Mob Rules' and 'Stand Up And Shout' lack vigour. The situation is soon hopeless.

This has to be the end. Please have mercy on us and yourself, Ronnie, and say goodbye to rock 'n' roll.

DON KAYE



LOVE/HATE (Jizzy Pearl): they've lost the plot!



DIO (Ronnie James Dio): what went so badly wrong?!

Pic Kristin Callahan

GIRLS AGAINST BOYS
AC ACOUSTICS

Highbury Garage, London
Friday, June 17

AC ACOUSTICS are from Glasgow, and so have red noses after spending one day in the heat of London. They admit it, and thus become likeable from the start of their noisy set. The geeky quartet make a wax-shifting racket awash with distortion and general guitar mischief. Their finest asset is a brutally thumping and inventive drummer. By far their *least* notable element is their song-writing, not helped by negligible vocals. Still, their 'Able Treasury' debut mini might be worth checking out.

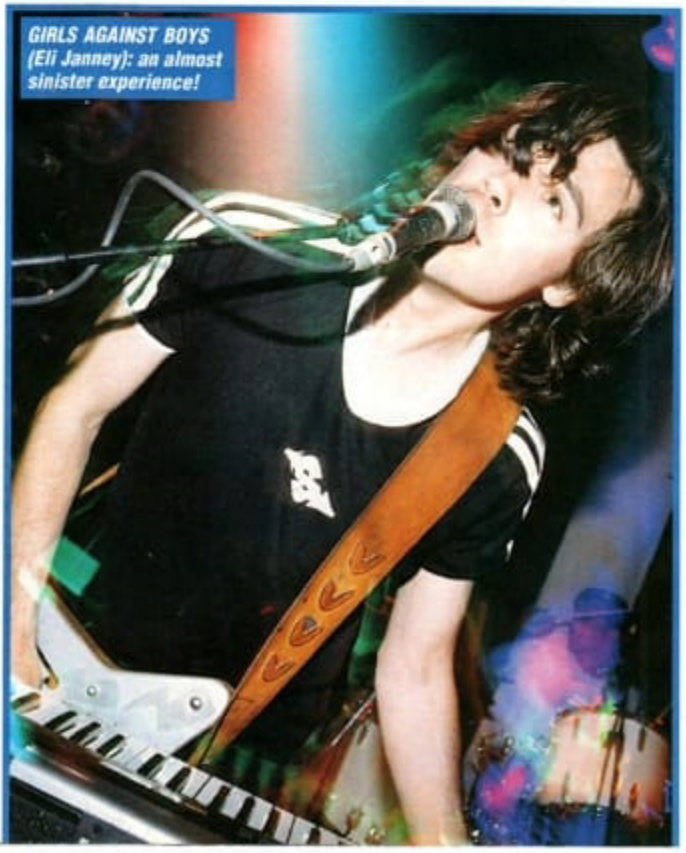
Girls Against Boys are one of those rarer-than-rare unique... *entities*. Their sound is difficult to pin down, but easy to be pinned down *by*, mixing the rolling force of Rock with slight elements of Indie and Gothic. If their name dissuaded fans of loud guitar from giving them a listen, it would be a great shame.

Scott McCloud is an unorthodox celebrity. Standing ice-cool in his clean-cut red shirt, while drawling like a Yankee Andrew Eldritch and banging out filthy guitar swathes, he makes an instant impression without exuding arrogance. Girls Against Boys on the whole are an almost sinister experience – the creeping 'Satin Down' is a case in point, with its excellent *'I hope you don't have a good time...'* drone.

They also rock your socks off on tracks like 'Go Be Delighted' (great vocal interplay between McCloud and bassist/keyboardist Eli Janney – another GVSB hallmark), the lumbering 'Rockets Are Red' and the apocalyptic 'Let Me Come Back', which is saved till last for maximum effect. Relentless.

Not every single moment is one of such brilliance. But Girls Against Boys are basically on to a winner.

JASON ARNOPP



GIRLS AGAINST BOYS (Eli Janney): an almost sinister experience!

Pic Paul Harries

KONCERTZ

'...STINK' BOMBS?

ORANGE 9MM

Irving Plaza, New York
Wednesday, June 15

AS THE opening act for MTV Grunge faves Dig, local punks Orange 9mm proved why they're no longer one of New York's best kept secrets. Born from the ashes of seminal Hardcore outfit Burn, outfit are gaining a fiery reputation for unleashing blasts of sonic bedlam soaked in thought-provoking prose.

Recently signed to EastWest, Orange 9mm put in a blistering 30-minute barrage. Lead throat Chaka combines the best of early Bad Brains and ultra-modern Quicksand quickness, and is destined to be a major force in 1994. Orange 9mm flow hot and smooth like a well-oiled machine, creating a sultry rush of blood and guts, sweat and hair. Together, this killer crunge conglomerate shoot off untold rounds of aural ammunition.

But just because you've got bags of talent and power, success ain't guaranteed. For every Pearl Jam, there's a Raging Slab – important Rock icons who've never received their just deserts. History can be cruel, so now is the time to place these chaps on the map. ***STEVEN BLUSH***

GRAVELMOUTH

The Broken Doll, Newcastle
Saturday, June 11

FOR THEIR campaign of sonic nihilism, Gravelmouth have a secret weapon. His name is Lout. This goateed front-thing has a way of crouching down to ground level, before launching upwards whilst firing off guttural salvos like 'I Push My Luck'. You wouldn't pick a fight with him.

Gravelmouth are all about simplicity. Their version of the MC5's 'Looking At You' is about the most complex thing they attempt. Guitar abuser Beef builds tunes around the most minimal of riffs which fuse with Country Dave's bass to create a noise that is awesome, while in the background Johnny Purdy smacks seven shades out of somebody else's drumkit.

Gravelmouth don't own much equipment – they've probably broken it all. ***LIAM SHEILS***

L7

Astoria 2, London
Thursday, June 16

IN THE sober light of day, L7 are a pretty ordinary Metal band. They recently told Deborah Harry (in *Raygun* magazine) that they'd rather be The Ramones than Girlschool. Anything, in fact, rather than Girlschool. Tonight, L7 sound like W.A.S.P..

Donita, Dee, Jennifer and Suzi are mangy bags with a cool record collection. L7 talk a lot about modern gals and modern problems and modern screamager-friendly angst. Tonight, the front row is packed with geeky disciples. They'd trade their first tampon to be as brazen as L7. Tank Girl chums to go surfboarding with and all that stuff you do when you feel like a social retard.

L7 recently told Deborah Harry that they would prefer to let the music do the talking. Joan Jett never made that mistake. And just as Auntie Joan said all she had to say with 'I Love Rock 'N' Roll', so L7 triumphed with 'Pretend We're Dead' – a magnificent blast of super-basic Pop to rattle the ramparts. Tonight, they play it as an encore. Joan Jett never made that mistake.

It is a straight-ahead performance that is only interrupted when one of the keen stage-floppers throws a pair of grey panties at Donita Sparks. She puts them on her head.

"More panties!" says guitarist Suzi Gardner. "Throw more panties!"

Save for 'Can I Run', the new album is a bit of a turkey. The formula works for about 30 minutes onstage, and about three minutes on vinyl. The new single ('Andres') is played tonight as the first encore, and is immediately eclipsed by 'Pretend We're Dead'. For a band who have spent aeons making 'Hungry For Stink', tonight's performance doesn't look like a band rejuvenated.

If L7 is becoming a slog and sapping the girls' natural charm and goofiness, then it is time to trade Jennifer Finch's boiler suit and new haircut for something altogether more overwhelming. You can go a long way on one riff and the right attitude. L7 need to polish the riff.

CHRIS WATTS

L7 (Donita Sparks): they need to polish that riff!

Pic: Dave Wilson

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Managing Director: Tom Moloney

Distribution: BBC Frontline,
Repro: Colour Systems,
Printers: BPCC Business Magazines (Pulman) Ltd, Milton Keynes
Subscriptions: Tower Publishing, Tower House, Sovereign Park, Lathkill Street, Market Harborough LE16 9EF.
Annual subscription rates (including postage):
1st Class UK – £60; Overseas surface mail – £88; Airmail Europe – £88; Airmail Zone 1 – £100; Airmail Zone 2 – £110; BFPO – £60; Eire – £88.

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Got something you wanna get off your chest? Then shout it out loud to: Kommunikation, Kerrang!, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF. And don't forget to include your name and address, cos our Letter Of The Week winner gets a fabbo Kerrang! goodie!

KOMMUNIKATION!

MATT CARPETED!

I'VE GOT one thing to say. In issue 498, it said that Matt Sorum from Guns N' Roses had been arrested for beatin' his wife well in an interview he said: "If anyone beats their wife or kid, they should buy a drumkit and hit that instead". I've got it on tape as proof. Matt Sorum is a f**kin' hypocrite – I pity the rest of the band for having to put up with him! **Kurt Cobain's Spirit On Earth, Surrey.**

UNBEATABLE DEADLINE!

I SAW a band called Deadline at Bradford Rio's on Friday, June 17. Deadline are *amazing*. They rock out in a major way. They are hard, heavy and have a good time. The singer is fit and the bass player should be in Gaggin' For A Shaggin'. Deadline are shit hot! **Jayne, Bradford.**

L7 HEAVEN!

I JUST want to say cheers to L7 and Jale for the great gig at the LA2, and for giving me and my mates passes for their after-show party down the road.

We had a great night and I want to thank Jennifer, Dee and Donita for taking the time to talk to us and sign autographs – cheers! **Tina, Surrey.**

HAIRVESTOR OF SORROW!

ON BUYING ish 499 and seeing the Metallica live special on the cover, I thought to myself, great! But to my horror when turning to the live review I discovered Michael Bolton is now the singer! What's with the new barnet, James?! **Bushy Beards, Ilford.**

LETTER OF THE WEEK

MOTÖRHEAD (Lemmy, far right): buy 'em beer – don't throw it!

'HEADING FOR THE OFF!

I WENT to see Motörhead at the Kentish Town Forum recently, and as soon as they set foot on stage some retarded tosser thought it would be clever to throw a pint of beer at Lemmy. Lemmy promptly left the stage (who can blame him?), and there was some delay before he was persuaded to return to the stage. Some welcome this was for the first Motörhead show in ages – it's the first time I've actually wanted some bouncers to be around! Hopefully, this has not reinforced Lemmy's already poor view of England, and they'll be back soon for the real Motörhead fans. **A Female Gooner/ Motörheadbanger, London.**

The incident almost brought a premature end to the mighty 'Head's long-awaited return to Blighty – did we not want that! So for your comments, you win a skill K! *kap! – Ed.*

POINTS FOUR YOU!

I HAVE a few points to make.

1) To the Self-Respecting Female who slags off Kontinuum, you can stick your self-respecting head up my self-respecting ass!

It's a very funny strip that takes me back to the days when a young chap could look at a woman and go "Phwoooargh!" without copping it from whingeing feminists.

2) John Mellencamp. About bloody time you remembered who the bugger is! Now how about an interview, if it's not too much trouble?...

3) Gun's cover of 'Word Up'. Bloody excellent!

4) Little Angels. Band has Number One album, Toby gets married (to a complete babe, though), band splits up. 'Nuff said. **Andy Barnett's Liver, Bristol.**

KISS KRAZY!

I JUST want to say that I think that the new Kiss compilation is the f**king best record ever. It just shows how ahead of their time Kiss were, and I love them! **Gene Simmons' Bell End – Phil Middleton, Nottingham.**

WIDDLE-TASTIC!?

DATE: JUNE 11, 1994. Venue: The Marquee. Artist: Yngwie 'Chipmunk Cheeks' Malmsteen. Verdict: Widdle, widdle, widdle, etc (widdle-tastic, in fact!). Conclusion: Stop eating junk food, you fat git! **Bruce, Cheltenham.**

SHORT 'N' CURLIES!

"GARTH, LOOK, it's the 500th issue of *Kerrang!*..."
"We're not worthy! We're not worthy!"
Happy 500th issue! **Astra, Farnborough.**

OI! HOW about some f**king Blue Tac as a free gift, so that we can stick up all these posters each week?! **Faz.**

SELF-RESPECTING Female (ish 499), here's some very good advice: chill out! **Jazzy 'Hippy Chick', Borehamwood.**

YOU OUGHT to be ashamed of selling this stuff to youngsters (*K!* 496, Pantera cover enclosed). Do you sleep well at nights? £1.40 of silly rubbish. **Anon.**

PARADISE LOST (Nick Holmes, far left): icons of the UK scene!

MORE 'LOST SUPPORT!

I FELT I should write and complain at the lack of backing for Paradise Lost, who are BRITISH – not some hip Seattle band, or some trend-following shite!

Paradise Lost are probably one of the best British bands around, alongside The Almighty and Terrorvision, yet why do people think they are Metallica wannabes, just cos on one song Nick Holmes sounds like James Hetfield?! For f**k's sake, get 'Icon', get 'Shades Of God'... Paradise Lost need your support – f**king give it now! **Mat, Surrey.**

'TAILZ FROM THE HARD SIDE!

WHAT WAS all that yellow and white stuff on page nine of last week's *Kerrang!*? Why, it's some of the egg on Pepsi Tate's face!

So the Tigertailz are gonna grace us with their presence once again, eh?! Well, sorry girls, you f**ked it! You turned your back on what you were and sold out to jump on someone else's bandwagon, and spent two years trying to convince us you were 'hard' and 'Street' as Wazbones. Current credibility equals zero.

Just think, if you'd have had the balls to ride it out you would now be spearheading the (apparently) new move towards Glam! As it is, you're the last horse to leave the stalls, and you're already a lap behind. **Bud Bundy.**

CARTOON TIME!

IN RESPONSE to the Self-Respecting Female, who wrote into complain about the sexist viewpoint of Kontinuum, I would just like to ask her if she actually realises what the cartoon strip is all about?

If she bothered to look at the story as a whole, and not just the individual parts, she might see that it's about things which have gone on in the PAST. It's not a story in moral guidance to teenage kids of today, it merely takes us through some of the events in Rock history and tells it through the thoughts of a teenage boy of that time.

But I suppose unless you were there, you won't be able to relate to it. I think that Kontinuum is an excellent, humorous account of what life was like for a teenage boy of that time... and I should know, because I was there!

So, unless you have something that's worth criticising, keep your narrow-minded opinions to yourself! **Billy.**

ACE ACOUSTIC!

I'D JUST like to thank Bruce Dickinson for a great acoustic set that he played last Saturday (June 11) at the Virgin Megastore in Oxford Street, London. Even though Bruce was delayed by half-an-hour the wait was well worth it!! Thanks for signing my album and photos, Bruce. See you on tour in September! **Mick Stead, Leeds.**

PHIL TO MAXIMUM!

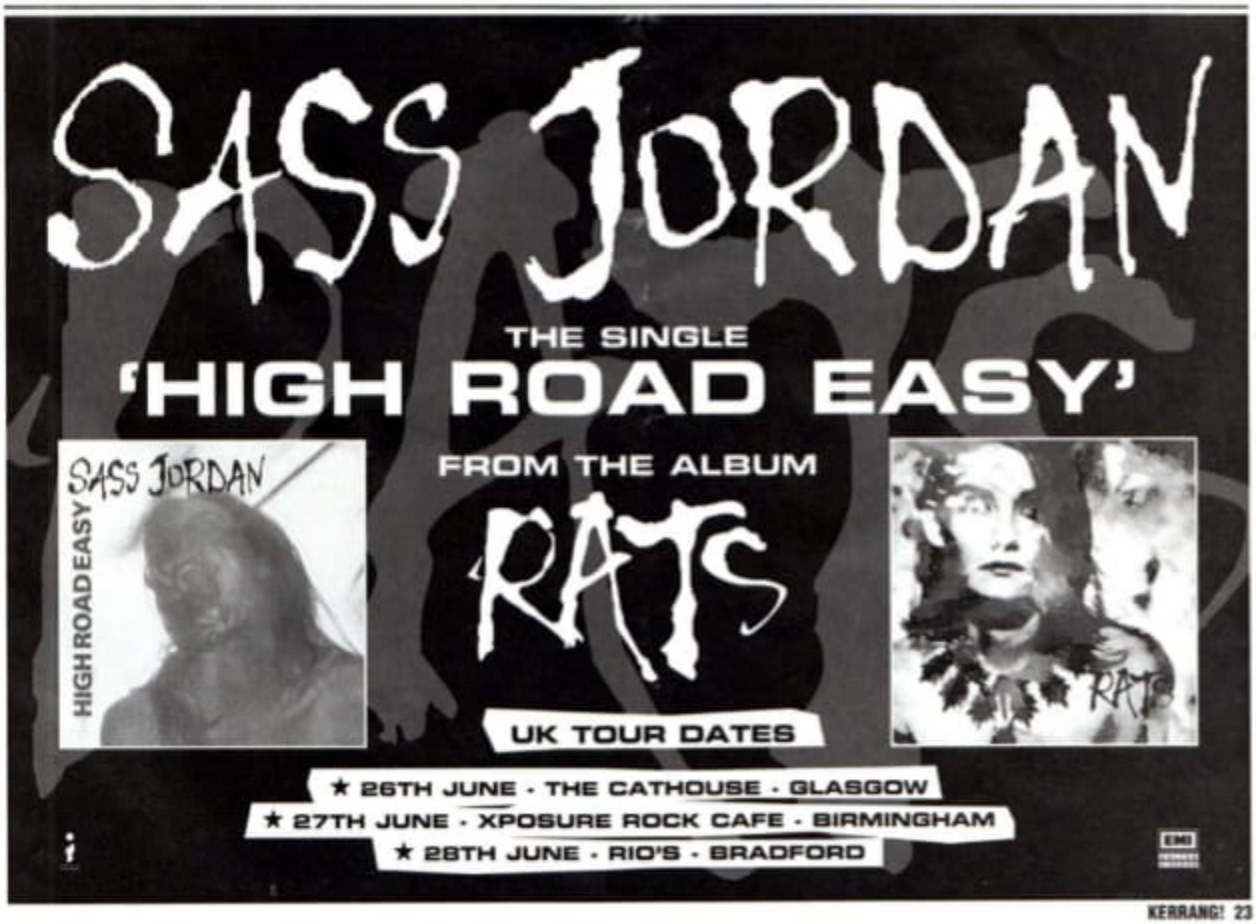
AFTER READING the letter from Mick in Cork (ish 498), I'm thinkin', what a stupid motherf**ker! How dare he call Phil Anselmo a "thick, ignorant, arrogant slob"? Who the f**k do you think you are, you sad bastard? Who's your hero, Mick? Daniel O'Donnell, I guess. My advice to you is to crawl back to the bog you came from. Phil Anselmo is a master of Metal, and your shit letters will never change that. **The Other Gloria Cavalera, County Longford.**

GAGGIN' FOR A SHAGGIN'!

OH CRUMBS! Little Angels have flown away from the nest, split up, demised, gone, are no-more – life without those lovely accents will never be the same again. So please, please with a big cherry on top print a pic of that lovable Little Angels sticksman with the cute tash Mark 'Rich' Richardson, because it could be the last in *Kerrang!* – sob! **Yazz, Portsmouth.**

Also nominated by ***The Mark Richardson Appreciation Society*** *in* ***Norwich*** *and* ***Clare Heath*** *in* ***Stockport****, ol' Rich is obviously gonna be missed by the girlie contingent! – Ed.*

MARK RICHARDSON: sexy sticksman alert!



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WIN LITTLE ANGELS' FINAL VINYL!

IT LOOKS likely to be the last ever *Little Angels* giveaway! But before you all go and get teary on us, as a final farewell the Scarborough scamps have gone and given us 10 copies of their limited edition, individually numbered vinyl version of the *'Too Posh To Mosh, Too Good To Last'* platter! It's a wondrous collection of the Angels' first mini-LP and the last three tracks ever recorded by them!

Not only are these copies part of the 5,000 pieces of precious vinyl, they actually sport numbers 1-10 and they're signed by the Angels themselves! It makes 'em the ultimate parting shot from Toby and his troops!

To stand a chance of winning one of these items simply answer the following question correctly:

Where are the Angels set to play their farewell gig?

Send your answers on a postcard along with your name and address to: *Little Angels Final Vinyl Komp, Kerrang!, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.*

The closing date is July 20, so get scribblin'!

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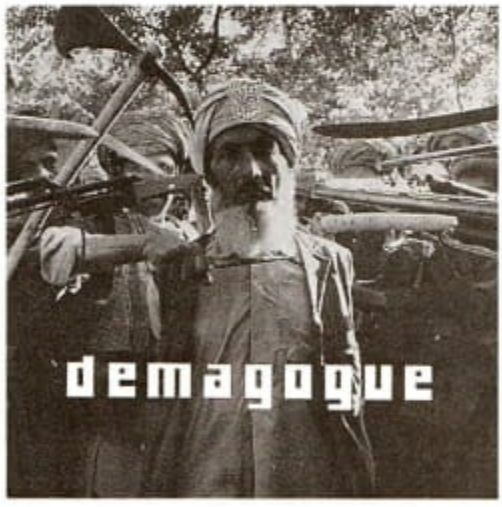

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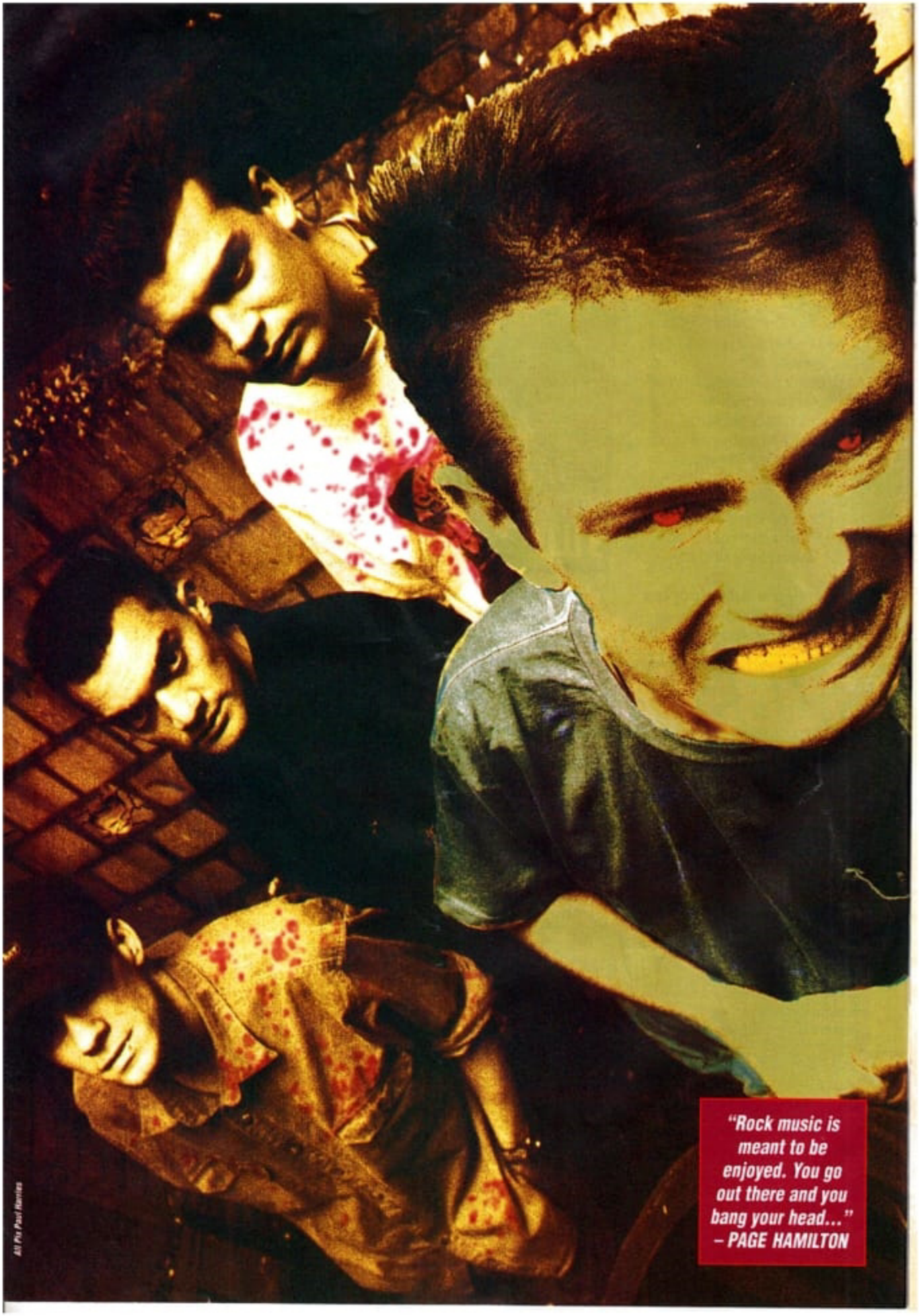
"Rock music is meant to be enjoyed. You go out there and you bang your head..."
– PAGE HAMILTON

METAL MAKES ME LAUGH!

If HELMET are po-faced arty geeks, why is mainman PAGE HAMILTON talkin' 'bout big hair, tight trousers 'n' Metal chicks? And why does he prefer Pantera to psuedo-intellectual bullshit? MARK BLAKE gets the answers straight from the quiet man of Macho Testosterone Metal!

THERE ARE four wise monkeys in the conference room at EastWest Records and only one of them is talking.

Page Hamilton, frontman, guitar riffmeister and resident "Jazz pinhead" – his words – is the mouthpiece of New York Rock band Helmet. The rest of the group are strangely silent. Supping tea and coffee, reading *US Today* and staring into space, drummer John Stanier, bassist Henry Bogdan and new guitarist Rob Echeverria seem content to let Hamilton do all the talking, all the time.

Finally, one of them breaks his silence. "Tell me something..." John Stanier asks. "Do you have tea every day at exactly the same time in England?"

He's serious. Hamilton turns to him with a slightly withering smile.

"Man, England's not like that. Not any more."

Stanier shuts up.

HELMET ARE a strange bunch. Like four well-groomed college boys, with regulation haircuts and shorts, Helmet's appearance is at odds with their music.

They've been carving out great chunks of noise since their 1990 debut album, 'Strap It On', and are known as that strangest of paradoxes: the thinking man's Heavy Metal band.

1992's 'Meantime' album re-stated their master plan: battering-ram drums and giant riffs masterminded by Page Hamilton, the man pulling mad chord structures out of his guitar and making everything sound like Jazz legend John Coltrane on a Heavy Metal death trip!

Helmet's new album is called 'Betty', and is a tighter and more controlled piece of work. In keeping with their love of contrasts, the album sleeve shows an idyllic picture of an all-American girl kneeling in a field picking a basket of flowers. It's a slightly trippy image reminiscent of those pictures on the inside sleeve of Led Zeppelin's 'Presence' album. And, just like 'Presence', the music itself threatens to take off your scalp.

"I kinda like that contradiction," Hamilton smirks. "I've always believed that there is humour in our music. Honestly.

"People say that Helmet are a very serious band, but only within boundaries. I like working with unusual titles. There's nothing profound about it. It's not some elaborate in-joke. It's just that a song title like 'Biscuits For Smut' sounds better than calling it 'Song With Riff Like Led Zep's 'Custard Pie' '. Let's remember, we're not writing piano concertos. This is Rock music."

The other three nod earnestly in agreement.

But whether it's a case of giving off the wrong signals or being misunderstood, Helmet can seem a little po-faced compared to some of their gonzo contemporaries on the Metal scene. They ain't Motley Crue!

> ***"It's not some elaborate in-joke. It's just that a song title like 'Biscuits For Smut' sounds better than calling it 'Song With Riff Like Led Zep's 'Custard Pie'..."***
> ***– PAGE HAMILTON***

"HEAVY METAL," murmurs Hamilton, pondering the phrase. "It makes me laugh. Rock music *is* comedy after all!

"I pick up *Kerrang!*, or *RIP* in the States, and still see a lot of very big hair, very tight trousers and lots of those, y'know, poses. Then you turn over the page and there's us!

"I think we help prove the theory that the term Heavy Metal is now governed by the music and that alone. I guess that's why I'm seeing the Jesus Lizard in those magazines now. And rightly so. That stuff is *heavy!*"

"We like Sepultura," announces Hamilton. The others start nodding again. "They've got something! Pantera? They're a little too on the Metal side for me, but if I had the choice between that and some art-fag, pseudo-intellectual bullshit then I'd go for Pantera.

"Rock music is meant to be enjoyed. You go out there and you bang your head. And to see bands

KONTINUEZ OVER

HELMET

taking it to this arty extreme..."

Hamilton won't name names but cites the current British music scene – *en masse* – as being particularly guilty.

"Pick up most British music mags and look at who's on the cover," he sniffs. "Bands that have never played a real show in their lives but who think they're wonderful because they have some amazing concept. Wow, let's play a gig with our cocks hanging out! It's f**king tiresome."

> ***"I think we help prove the theory that the term Heavy Metal is now governed by the music and that alone..."***
> ***– PAGE HAMILTON***

Again, Hamilton seems oblivious to the notion that Helmet come across as a little arty at times.

"There was a time when it started to get too much. All these bands and all these so-called Rock stars jumping on the political bandwagon and forgetting that, at the end of the day, they were just Rock musicians. Bono thought he was Jesus Christ. Sting thought he was going to save the rain forests.

"And Don Henley complained about Ronald Reagan throughout an entire album!" Hamilton groans. "Then, the moment his presidency finished, that was it. Not another word. That's a classic case of a musician using politics for their own ends. Political correctness can only go so far."

So how do Helmet view the politics of New York's Hardcore scene? Hamilton makes a zipping motion across his mouth and gestures to guitarist Rob Echeverria.

Formerly with the NY bands Rest In Pieces and Straight Ahead, Helmet's newest recruit is a veteran of the scene.

"Politics is so wrapped up in that scene that you can't separate it from the music," says Echeverria. "That whole scene is about who you are and where you come from. You sing about your friends, your family and the street. The street is everything. If you live in New York it affects your music. You can't help it."

"It's real lame to think that those bands are only becoming popular now," adds Stanier. "That scene has been going on for so long and now it's been treated as if its some great discovery.

"It's not that the good stuff has been and gone. It's just weird to think that it's taken this long to catch on in Britain."

"HELMET IS ready for Britain again!" quips Hamilton. "The last time we were here we had some rather bad press. We were described as 'Macho Testosterone Music'. Yet look around here."

He makes a sweeping gesture around the room.

"D'ya see all those pictures of The Lemonheads and Evan Dando in the press office? He's on the cover of every magazine with his shirt off and his nipple clamps on, but he's not trying to be macho, right?!"

Surely Evan's new haircut has scuppered his sex symbol image?

"Yeah *sure*," grins Hamilton. "It's too late for that haircut to change anything, Bud."

Poor Helmet. At war with the rest of the music scene and at war with Britain? Not so, reckons Hamilton.

"I love Britain. I think it's beautiful."

"I love it and I hate it," insists Stanier. "I love the scenery, and I hate the music papers and the fact that you can't get anything to eat after midnight!"

And the rest of the music scene?

"There's some cool stuff out there," says Hamilton. "But I only listen to a tiny percentage of it."

Cypress Hill's T-Ray produced the new Helmet album, but the Helmet frontman is no great fan of Rap music.

"There's a small percentage that I like. But that's the same with all forms of music. I play the shit out of the stuff I do like. Then I'll get into something five years after everybody else has been raving about it. I guess I'm just awkward."

Hamilton is a self-proclaimed "Jazz pinhead". And much has been made of his appreciation of Jazz music and its influence on Helmet. He's just finished compiling some more tapes to keep him entertained on the band's forthcoming tour – most of it gathered from 1940s Jazz albums – and you can see the rest of the band bracing themselves for the experience. Is he really a crashing Jazz bore?

"Pretty much," nods Hamilton. "When I put my tapes on, the rest of the guys start throwing shit at me. But that's tough."

Is 'Biscuits For Smut' an obscure Jazz reference?

"Actually no," smiles the guitarist. "It's based on an old story that my grandfather used to tell me. One of his forefathers used to bake biscuits. And he had a dog called Smut and the biscuits were so bad, even the dog wouldn't eat them."

He shrugs at the mundanity of it all.

"I also love the word biscuits. I like the way it sounds..."

Anyone for art fag pseudo- intellectual bullshit?

HELMET (from left): John Stanier, Rob Echeverria, Page Hamilton and Henry Bogdan

KERRANG!
METALLICA
SHIT HITS THE SHEDS TOUR '94
All Pix Ross Halfin
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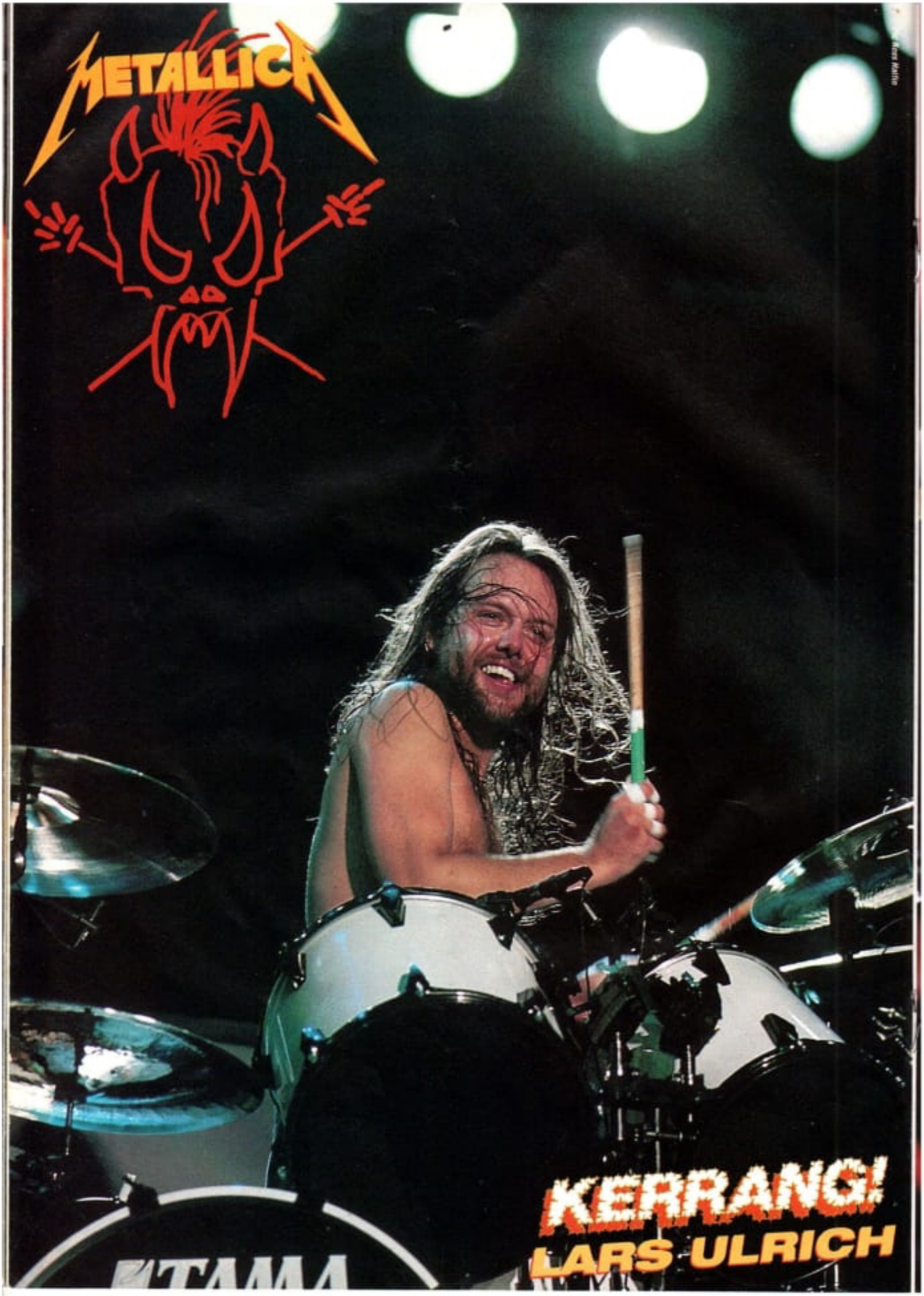
8-PAGE POSTER PULL-OUT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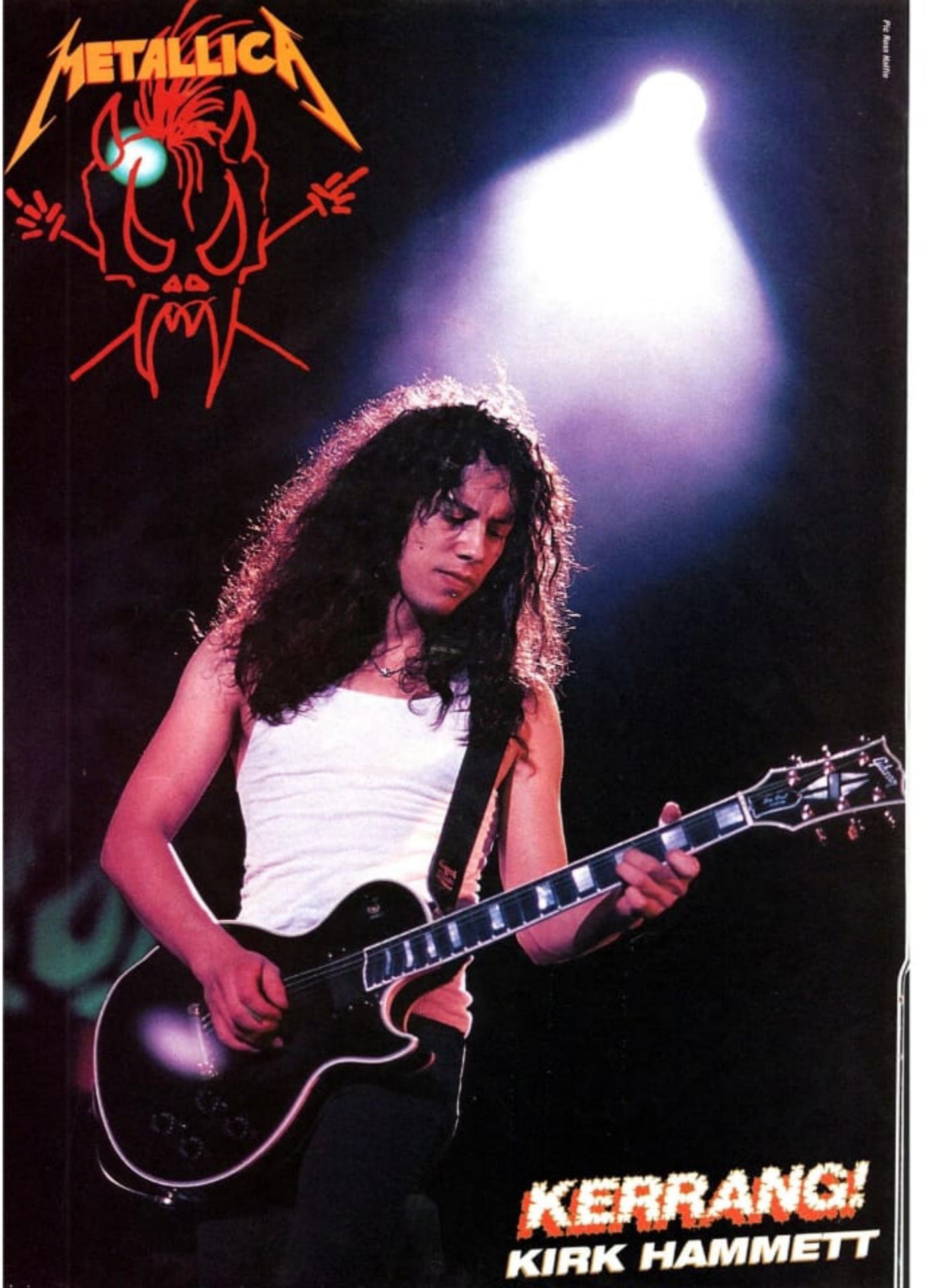
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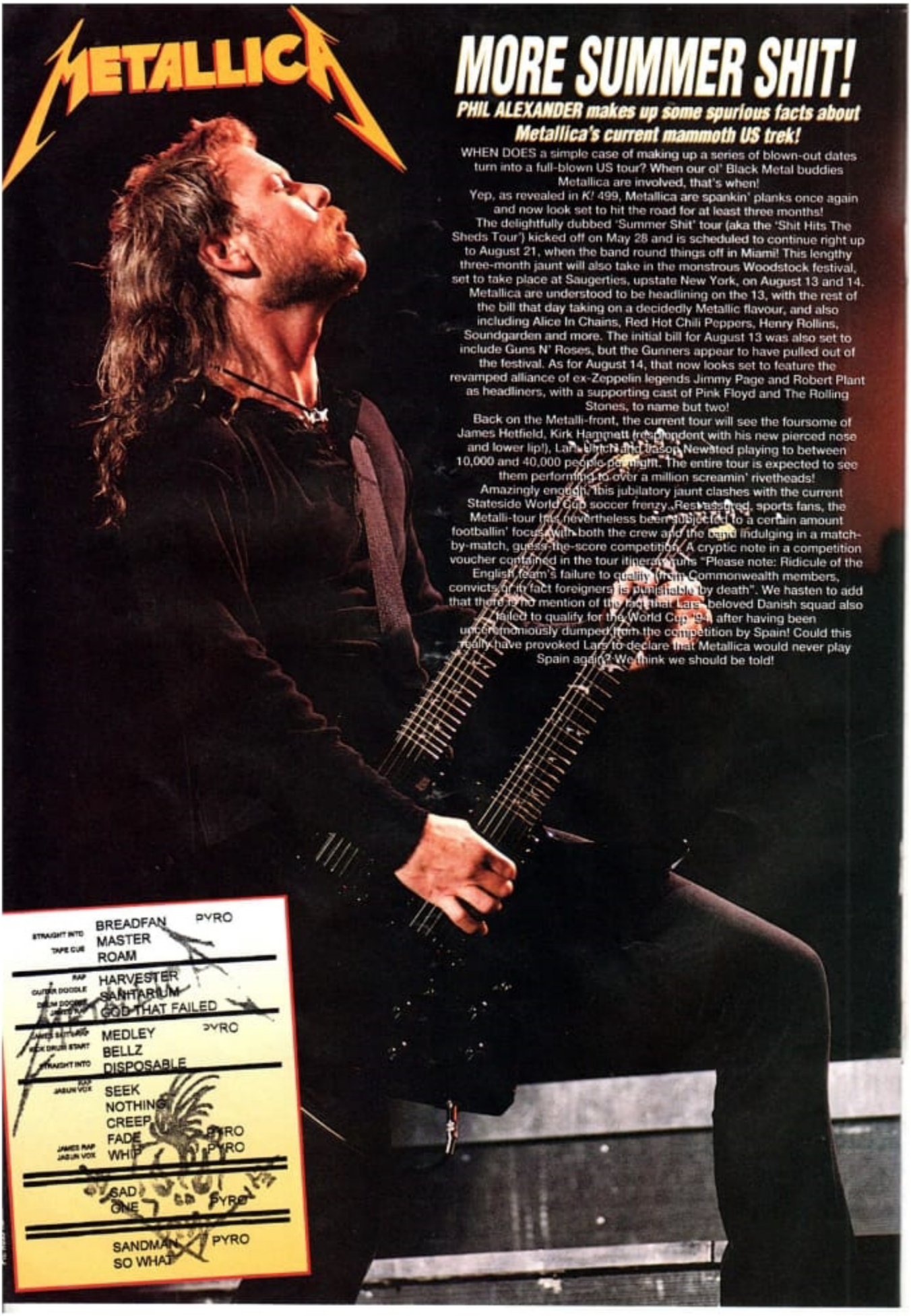


MORE SUMMER SHIT!

PHIL ALEXANDER makes up some spurious facts about Metallica's current mammoth US trek!

WHEN DOES a simple case of making up a series of blown-out dates turn into a full-blown US tour? When our ol' Black Metal buddies Metallica are involved, that's when!

Yep, as revealed in *K!* 499, Metallica are spankin' planks once again and now look set to hit the road for at least three months!

The delightfully dubbed 'Summer Shit' tour (aka the 'Shit Hits The Sheds Tour') kicked off on May 28 and is scheduled to continue right up to August 21, when the band round things off in Miami! This lengthy three-month jaunt will also take in the monstrous Woodstock festival, set to take place at Saugerties, upstate New York, on August 13 and 14. Metallica are understood to be headlining on the 13, with the rest of the bill that day taking on a decidedly Metallic flavour, and also including Alice In Chains, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Henry Rollins, Soundgarden and more. The initial bill for August 13 was also set to include Guns N' Roses, but the Gunners appear to have pulled out of the festival. As for August 14, that now looks set to feature the revamped alliance of ex-Zeppelin legends Jimmy Page and Robert Plant as headliners, with a supporting cast of Pink Floyd and The Rolling Stones, to name but two!

Back on the Metalli-front, the current tour will see the foursome of James Hetfield, Kirk Hammett (resplendent with his new pierced nose and lower lip!), Lars Ulrich and Jason Newsted playing to between 10,000 and 40,000 people per night. The entire tour is expected to see them performing to over a million screamin' rivetheads!

Amazingly enough, this jubilatory jaunt clashes with the current Stateside World Cup soccer frenzy. Rest assured, sports fans, the Metalli-tour has nevertheless been subjected to a certain amount footballin' focus, with both the crew and the band indulging in a match-by-match, guess-the-score competition. A cryptic note in a competition voucher contained in the tour itinerary runs "Please note: Ridicule of the English team's failure to qualify from Commonwealth members, convicts or in fact foreigners is punishable by death". We hasten to add that there is no mention of the fact that Lars' beloved Danish squad also failed to qualify for the World Cup '94, after having been unceremoniously dumped from the competition by Spain! Could this really have provoked Lars to declare that Metallica would never play Spain again? We think we should be told!

This week's new singles reviewed by DAVE REYNOLDS!

SINGLES

Mutha's Day Out 'My Soul Is Wet' (Chrysalis)

CERTAINLY FAR more together than the last effort from this young bunch outta Arkansas, Chrysalis would appear to be backing them to accomplish great feats, but I just find them a bit too Alternative to capture much attention from the Metal market.

Counting Crows 'Round Here' (Geffen)

IT'S EASY to find yourself drawn into the world of the Crows. Their hypnotic tales bring forth vivid pictures of Summer evenings in the American Mid-West.

Very soulful and mellow, the CD also features a live recording of 'The Ghost In You'.

Messiah 'The Ballad Of Jesus' (Noise)

I'M NOT sure, but I think this Industrial combo is of German origin. Whatever, this package features four different versions of the same song, that repeats an otherwise good riff to the point where you just want to throw the bloody thing against the nearest wall.

The boy Arnopp thinks it's "smart". In that case he can bloody well keep it!

Vivid 'Urban Surfing EP' (Vivid)

SKIN FANS will love Leicester outfit Vivid. The six-piece band (they have a three-prong guitar team!), offer up some healthy Groove Rock, which doesn't get more potent than 'Freedom'.

£3.50 (inc P&P) from 15 Lytham Road, Leicester, LE2 1YD.

Stevie Nicks 'Maybe Love' (EMI)

FROM STEVIE'S new album, 'Street Angel', 'Maybe Love' is flowery AOR of the most sugary kind. Co-written with her old mate Sandy Stewart (remember Miss Stewart's excellent 'Cat Dance' LP?), this is not the best thing Stevie Nicks has put her name to. In fact I'd wager Sandy Stewart would do the track more justice by singing it herself.

Kreed 'System Suicide' (Kreed)

HEAVY ROCK with a blend of Funk, Rap and even Pomp from a four-piece London-based group still trying to find their feet in the heady world of songwriting.

A little eclectic, but promising. Contact: Laurence Diana, 139 Grove Road, London E17 9BU.

Little Angels 'All Roads Lead To You' (Castle Communications)

ALTHOUGH YOU may have heard this on the radio of late, mysteriously 'All Roads...' has been shelved as a single release, despite copies being pressed up for promotional use, so I'd keep an eye open in the second-hand record emporiums if you're a keen Angels devotee.

By my reckoning this band hadn't even reached their peak as a unit, and although the other track here, 'Got Me On The Run', sounds a bit too similar to what management stablemate Francis Dunnery has been doing recently, it is indeed a sad state of affairs that one of the best British bands of recent times will soon be no more.

The Wildhearts 'Suckerpunch' (EastWest)

STILL MIXING the sound of the suburbs with neatly executed chorus-lines, The Wildhearts are finally beginning to come on rather nicely now.

The frantic, punky approach of 'Suckerpunch' is actually bettered by the previously unreleased material gracing the B-side, in particular 'Two-Way Idiot Mirror', that had more than a few heads in the office vigorously nodding like bastards.

SINGLE OF THE WEEK!

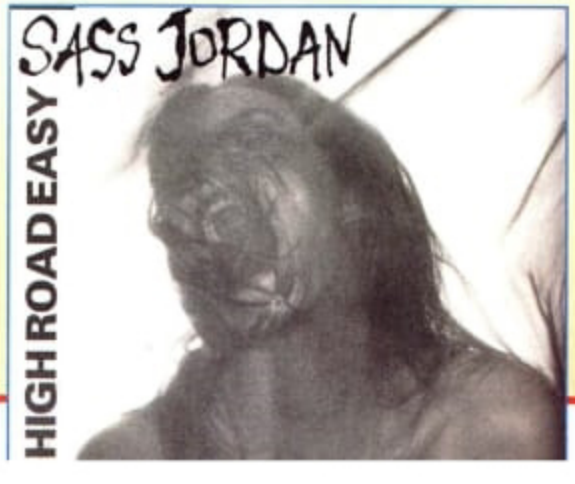
Sass Jordan 'High Road Easy' (EMI)

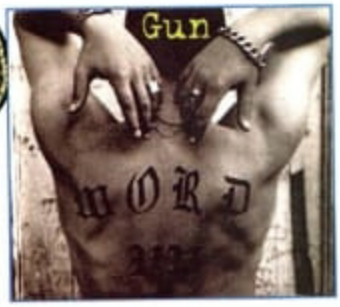
NOW IS the time to get Sassed up! A huge slab of Groove Rock from a woman on an upward path, shadowed all the way by the retro-fuelled guitar of best buddy Stevie Salas.

This single package also features the more exclusive 'Big Blue Plantation', and covers of Fontella Boss' 'Rescue Me' and Joe Walsh's 'Funk 49'.

The more I think about it, the more Sass sounds in many ways like Mother's Finest's bluesy soul mother Joyce Kennedy – both capable of blowing the balls off a rhino at 15 paces.

And if ya don't believe me, then I'd recommend a visit to one of Sass' live shows!





Gun 'Word Up' (A&M)

DESTINED TO be a huge hit, if radio play of late is anything to go by, Gun's Metalized version of the Cameo hit has finally been given a release for public consumption and not just for the benefit of club DJs.

The single also features three exclusive tracks that won't be on the 'Swagger' album. Value for money then, but the cover art is a rip off of Love/Hate's 'Let's Rumble'...

The Holy Joes 'Back To Basics EP' (Rapture)

CORRECTLY RECOGNISED by Phil Alexander as a 'garage Punk' cover, the lead cut here ('Good Times', from the pen of '60s act Nobody's Children, natch) instantly marks the Holy Joes as a vibrant, guitar-oriented mob with a Tory MP-like fetish for oranges, if their publicity photo is anything to go on.

Described by one source as a cross between The Clash and early Manics, I'd endorse that assessment, even if it did come from the Guardian!

Biohazard 'Tales From The Hard Side' (Warner Bros)

MENTAL METAL from Motherf**kin' Brooklyn, featuring a lot of angst and tales of social injustice in the groove. Hard as f**k and probably more Metal than a lot of this new stuff that's coming out of America these days

Uh, did I like it? Not really.

Aerosmith 'Shut Up And Dance' (Geffen)

PROBABLY ONE of the weakest tracks on the 'Smith's 'Get A Grip' opus, if you listen to it closely enough there are very strong elements of those old chestnuts 'Dancin' In The Streets' and 'Pretty Woman' in the grooves.

Aerosmith have had some huge hits, but they're unlikely to have a particularly big one with this.

BLOOD! GUTS! GLORY!

GENE SIMMONS: a fire-breathing Demon dribbling blood off a seven-inch tongue! PAUL STANLEY: a pouting rock 'n' roll Casanova! Together with 'SPACE ACE' FREHLEY and PETER 'THE CAT' CRISS, they formed KISS – the kings of Rock theatre!

1994 sees Simmons and Stanley celebratin' an incredible 20 years of Kisstory! Ace and Peter got lost along the way, Peter's replacement ERIC CARR died in 1991, but Gene 'n' Paul have survived the excess of the '70s and the hard times in the '80s to keep Kiss' heart beating strong!

What kept 'em going? How did Kiss become the Hottest Band In The World? Why did they take the make-up off? And are they really sexists and Satanists? DAVE REYNOLDS puts all the big questions to Gene 'n' Paul in a Kerrang! Kiss extravaganza!

THE GREATEST IMAGE IN ROCK!

Once seen, never forgotten. Kiss weren't just another Rock band, they were gods!

Paul: "Like all great things, it came from the darkest recesses of the soul. The make-up was never really thought about, it just happened. Each one of us obviously got in touch with something inside ourselves, which is what made it genuine. If some other band tried it they looked like fools."

Gene: "I've always felt like a stranger in a strange land. I was an Israeli before I came to America, and

"We should've taken the make-up off before we did. Some of the guys were a little scared..." – PAUL STANLEY

when I first arrived I had this sense of wonder with all things American. Everything was bigger, even the people!

"As a child I became obsessed with comics, movies and rock 'n' roll, and the first time I put make-up on, what came out and how I moved on stage was a combination of all the images that fascinated me, from the Phantom Of The Opera and Batman to King Kong and Bela Lugosi.

"Of course, the press – those people on the outside looking in – didn't understand what it was all about, especially when they'd ask me what I was trying to be and I'd just say, 'Gene Simmons'!"

"To sing about and glorify something as powerful, motivating and earth-changing as sex is as valid to me as singing about any other social issue..."
– PAUL STANLEY

THE DEMON, THE STARCHILD, THE CAT AND THE SPACE ACE!

Gene, Paul, Peter, Ace. Four guys from New York mutate into freaky rock 'n' roll superheroes!

Paul: "Basically, all four of us were such over-the-top personalities that it was important for each person to pretty much define ourselves.

"From the day Ace walked into an audition wearing one red sneaker and one orange sneaker, it was obvious to the rest of us that he was very spacey. He'd talk about this mythical planet called Jendell that existed in his head. He was a good artist and the make-up he came up with fitted him like a glove.

"Peter liked to think of himself as somebody who, like a cat, had nine lives. Somebody who grew up on the street, took chances and had gotten away with a lot. And, well, he's still alive!"

Gene: "Not being pictured without make-up ever was something that happened accidentally. The press felt we were hiding our real identities, which wasn't the case. They wanted to know what we *really* looked like, and from then the make-up became almost religious.

"We felt that we were becoming much more than a rock 'n' roll band. We gained a sense of power in the same way women feel more powerful and attractive with make-up on.

"Once we caught on to the press' fascination with it, we decided to keep out of the limelight. Of course, it became a 24-hour pain in the ass. There was actually a $25,000 dollar reward out for anyone who could take a picture of me without my make-up on!"

Paul: "It got to the point where I became so aware of cameras I used to see 'em with my peripheral vision! I got to the point where I'd be watching TV, and someone comes on with a camera and I'd duck!

"But we felt that our anonymity needed to be unblemished in order to create the perfect beast. We felt that the fans needed to identify with the people onstage and not those off it."

KONTINUEZ OVER

KISS

WE WANT KISS!

Stars of ANTHRAX, DEF LEPPARD, SKID ROW and THE ALMIGHTY tell the Big K! why they love klassik Kiss!

SCOTT IAN (ANTHRAX)

What made Kiss 'The Hottest Band In The World'?

"For me, it was the music. A lot of people said they were nothing but a big image, but I heard 'em before I knew what they looked like. I heard 'Rock And Roll All Nite' on the radio and the f**kin' song just blew me away."

Who is your favourite member of Kiss?

"Gene Simmons, definitely. He was The Demon. He was evil. He was a comic book come to life, and being a big comic collector and horror fan, I just identified with his character the most. A guy standing onstage, blowing fire, spitting blood, wearing evil make-up and dragon boots... he is still The Demon!"

What is your favourite Kiss album?

"That's a tough one. I guess I'll say 'Dressed To Kill', cos it was my first Kiss album. Actually, I have to tell ya that my favourite album is the first one through to 'Alive II'. The whole era! I can't pick just one."

Anthrax have already covered 'She' for the tribute album, as well as 'Parasite' and 'Love Her All I Can'. Which other Kiss tune would you like to cover?

"The Melvins and Dinosaur Jr have both done 'Goin' Blind', which is one we talked about doing. We kinda like the more obscure, weird ones. I know we'll do another one. We'll start writing in August and we'll be playing every day and start playing Kiss songs again; maybe something off 'Hotter Than Hell'."

SEBASTIAN BACH (SKID ROW)

What made Kiss 'The Hottest Band In The World'?

"Fire, boots, blood, bombs, codpieces, levitating drumkits, exploding guitars, tongues, smoke, lunchboxes, and above all the ultimate Heavy Metal SONGS made Kiss the hottest band in the land!

"Many tourists checked out Kiss from the outside and thought we were all captivated by the costumes and the show, but in reality it was the look in Kiss' EYES that spellbound an entire generation – to rock and roll ALL NITE and *pawtee* every day!"

Who is your favourite member of Kiss?

"Like The Beatles, the original Kiss were a true rarity in Rock; each member was as identifiable and popular as the next. Who was my favourite depended on my mood at the time.

"I will say, however, that to this day, each and every solo that Ace Frehley has ever done lights my ass up more than any other guitarist on the planet – or in SPACE, for that matter!"

KONTINUEZ ON PAGE 42

'ALIVE!'

The klassik 1975 double live album saves Kiss' label Casablanca and makes the band a household name across America!

Paul: " 'Alive!' broke at the right time, because we were broke and so was the label. Our record sales were pretty soft, but we were building this huge reputation as a live band. We figured that either people didn't like the records or else the albums didn't capture what we were like live. We felt that we needed to give people a souvenir of the live show."

KNIGHTS IN SATAN'S SERVICE!

American bible-bashers branded Kiss disciples of the Devil himself! The controversy was hotter than Hell!

Gene: "I remember playing Toronto and finding a picture of me across the front page of a newspaper. I thought, 'Cool!', until I looked at the headline: 'There Is A Devil After All'! It was the *Jesus Times* or something.

"Interestingly, it was always Christian preachers giving me a hard time, never a Jewish rabbi or a Moslem. I think what fuelled the fire, though, was when I'd be asked if I was a Devil worshipper and I'd say, 'It's none of your business'!"

Paul: "If anybody thinks we lost a minute's sleep over a bunch of morons trying to get publicity, think again.

"Let's face it, people don't do that campaigning stuff for the public's benefit. They just want their 15 minutes of fame, but anybody who tries to take a ride on my shoulders gets an elbow in the balls!"

"The first time I put make-up on, what came out was a combination of all the images that fascinated me, from the Phantom Of The Opera and Batman to King Kong and Bela Lugosi..."
– GENE SIMMONS

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH!

The gatefold sleeve for 'Alive II' says it all: four grotesque Rock monsters raised on a gigantic stage flanked by explosions and columns of fire!

Paul: "When we were doing 'Alive!' the only thing we had for intensity was our own sweat and blood. Sure, there were bombs at that point, but all the other stuff was yet to come.

"Success gave us the ability to dream something up and then ask someone to build it. Every time we went on tour we tried to add something, to get ourselves off as much as our fans. We'd give people what they didn't see elsewhere. I mean, you'd be hard pressed to come up with a better ending to a show than what you see on the gatefold to 'Alive II'!"

Gene: "Neil Bogart (head of Casablanca Records) signed us on the strength of our demo. He'd never seen a picture of us, so when he came to see us he thought we were great, but he didn't want us to wear make-up.

"We told him that he could take it or leave it. We had our vision – and it took balls to tell him that, cos we didn't have any money or anything.

"Once Neil saw the madness of it all he gave us $250,000 worth of special effects, hanging Kiss logos and everything. People soon began to fall victim to the crusade and our show soon became the circus that everyone would flock to once it marched into town!"

Was there anything that Kiss tried that didn't work?

Paul: "Somebody came up with an apparatus that went on my eye (the starry one!), that enabled me to shoot a laser beam out over the audience. I used it in rehearsal and it scared the shit out of me! I felt that it would turn around and lobotomise me!

"The effect looked great, cos I could shoot this thing the length of an arena, but the concern that the audience or myself could be blinded made me pass on the idea!

"And in retrospect, the costumes we had in that 'Dynasty' period (1979) pretty much sucked! It was all a bit too Disney-meets-Vegas for my liking. I feel that we lost something when we got away from the basic black and silver."

Paul also reveals that drummer Eric Carr, The Fox, was originally The Hawk!

"There's a picture of Eric applying the hawk make-up in the book (the forthcoming 'Kisstory' epic – a lavish project masterminded by Paul and Gene). I used to take photos all the time. I have a wealth of material of the band offstage during the make-up period. I have this photo of Eric and he does *not* look like a happy camper! He looks like Big Bird from 'Sesame Street'!"

KISS KRAZY!

As the youth of '70s America fell for Kiss like ninepins, the band's merchandising industry went into overdrive! There were Kiss comics, dolls, clothes, masks, lunchboxes – and the legendary Kiss Army fan club!

Paul: "I make no apologies for it. If people wanted T-shirts, why shouldn't we be the ones who give them? We felt that we were in a better position to give them something of quality.

"At the time, it was very uncool to have fan clubs. Every band and their sister has one now, but when we did it people thought we were mad. The Kiss Army grew out of the streets from a group of fans in Terre Haute, Indiana who stormed a radio station that wouldn't play Kiss!

"The merchandising became so huge that it sometimes eclipsed the band, so in some minds we became a merchandising ploy rather than a band. That was when it had to stop.

Klassik KISS shots: it's a long way to the top if you wanna rock all nite... and party every day!

KISS' former manager Bill Aucoin surveys the fruits of the band's monstrous merchandising empire!

"But we were no great marketing genuises. It was just a case of supply and demand."

DEATH OF THE CAT AND THE SPACE ACE!

The klassik Kiss line-up was split in 1980 by the exit of Peter Criss. Ace departed two years later. Could it ever be the same without 'em?

Paul: "There's no doubt that your first recollection of something is your strongest. Put it this way, no matter how many James Bonds come along most of us are gonna remember Sean Connery in the role, because he was the first. He defined the part.

"Ace and Peter with Gene and I, with all of our positives and negatives, made Kiss what is was. The chemistry was unique to that line-up.

"There would be nothing more pleasing if the four of us were here today, looking back at the last 20 years. But the other side of the coin is that if the four of us had tried to stay together, the band *wouldn't* be here today."

Gene: "Every band has its golden era, but not everyone can keep up the marathon pace. Is my destiny limited to the shorter vision of my partners?

"Ace and Peter could have had solo careers and remained in the band, but they have to sleep in the beds they made for themselves. We miss them. And it would be great for Ace and Peter to be here just to enjoy it and to know they'd won – but they f**ked up big-time, and they know it!"

KISS UNMASKED!

Having conned us with the title of their 1980 LP, 'Unmasked', Kiss finally took the make-up off for 1983's 'Lick It Up'!

Paul: "We should've taken the make-up off before we did. Some of the guys

KONTINUEZ OVER

KISS

What is your favourite Kiss album?
'It'd have to be 'Alive!' or 'The Originals' (a collection of Kiss' first three albums repackaged following the phenomenal success of 'Alive!'). The track 'Strange Ways' is truly devastating! And 'Rock And Roll Over' is also a musical masterpiece!"

Which track would Skid Row cover for a Kiss tribute album?
"SKID ROW were 100 per cent set to record 'Flaming Youth' for 'Kiss My Ass'. Gene and I talked for weeks and even had a date and studio time booked in New York. But when Atlantic Records heard about the project, we were told that under no circumstances could we participate.

"HEY, BOOZERS, did you ever think it could be possible to be so big in Rock that you're *not allowed* to rock? Oh well, they can't stop me from singing it in the shower! CAN THEY?!"

JOE ELLIOTT (DEF LEPPARD)

What made Kiss 'The Hottest Band In The World'?
"Probably the pyrotechnics!"

Who is your favourite member of Kiss?
"As characters it's hard to distinguish between Paul and Gene."

What is your favourite Kiss album?
" 'Destroyer', because it was the first one I bought. I bought it purely for the sleeve, but it sounded exactly like I thought it would – totally OTT!"

Which track would Def Leppard cover for a Kiss tribute album?
" 'Detroit Rock City', the best thing they ever wrote."

PETE FRIESEN (THE ALMIGHTY)

What made Kiss 'The Hottest Band In The World'?
"On top of having killer songs, they were completely larger than life. Growing up, you couldn't escape them. Everywhere you turned there were Kiss magazines, comic books, the Kiss Army. And their live shows were unbelievable to the point where you were convinced they were superhuman!"

Who is your favourite member of Kiss?
"It's a toss-up between Ace and Gene. Ace was cool as f**k, but I think Gene edges him out. I mean, he was the God Of Thunder, breathing fire and spitting blood with a seven-inch tongue! The guy was a total hero!"

What is your favourite Kiss album?
" 'Alive!'. It was the album that made every 12-year-old kid want to be in a band. It's got all the best songs off the first three records, and Paul Stanley's raps are legendary!"

Which track would The Almighty cover for a Kiss tribute album?
" 'She' off 'Dressed To Kill', because it's got that great slow funky riff. The whole song just grooves!"

NEXT WEEK! *More star Kiss fans kome outta the kloset!*

were a little scared. I tried to get everybody to do it for the 'Creatures Of The Night' album (1982), just because I thought we were in that grey area between feeling comfortable and believing in that look, and being ready to take the shot and try to go forward.

"I thought 'Creatures...' was a tremendously powerful, focussed album. It would've been the perfect time, but the feeling wasn't unanimous, so we waited one more album."

Perhaps you used the 'Unmasked' album title too soon, though!

"Y'know, I was never crazy about that album. For a start, the album cover was by far the worst we've ever had. I still look at it and cringe!

"An album cover should have impact, and for my money you'll be hard pressed to find an cover as hip as 'Rock And Roll Over'. *That's* Kiss.

"With 'Lick It Up', we didn't want to play up the fact we were taking the make-up off, and the simplest way to do that was with a simple photo. What the album cover said was, 'Listen to the music!'.

"It's amazing how many people picked up that album and thought overnight that we'd learnt how to play our instruments!"

> ***"It would be great for Ace and Peter to be here just to enjoy it and to know they'd won – but they f**ked up big-time, and they know it!" – GENE SIMMONS***

LET'S PUT THE 'X' IN SEX!

Whether it's Gene offering to put his 'log' in a 'fireplace', or Paul gettin' dirty around 11.30, it seems Kiss are always horny!

Paul: "To sing about and glorify something as powerful, motivating and earth-changing as sex is as valid to me as singing about any other social issue.

"I'd sure as hell rather sing about getting laid than getting stoned, although I think we reached a point where, clearly, it was going over the top. Sometimes you don't know that it's time to change something until you've already done it.

"I'm not ashamed of anything we did; it's just that the '80s seemed to be a time where every band, not just us, seemed to parody everything we'd done in the '70s, which was really glorifying sex and the freedom to screw someone you'd just met, or have five women a day.

"We loved that aspect of our lives to the point of exhaustion, but we did take it to where it became cartoon-like."

Gene: "Having women ask me to f**k them whilst I wore the make-up happened often enough, but I don't find that any different from picking up a stripper and wanting her to appear in her work clothes rather than jeans and a T-shirt. It's the fantasy. Women are no different from men in that respect.

"For me, the whole sexual thing was just a diversion. I've yet to get drunk – champagne, for instance, just tastes like rotten soda – and drugs are the enemy as far as I'm concerned. The only high I've ever had was in a dentist's chair, so girls were the only thing I had. And when you're touring America and find yourself

PAUL STANLEY (left) and Gene Simmons: the Star Child and the Demon in '94!

in Davenport, Iowa at 5am, there's nothing else to do but screw the preacher's wife!"

In the late '70s, Gene dated Cher *and* Diana Ross!

"I have to tell you that initially neither Diana nor Cher appealed to me. Physically, they're not my type. But what did appeal to me was the fact that they were their own women. They didn't need a man to define who they were by way of taking another name.

"I mean, how does Bianca Jagger have the right to that name? How many songs did she write? Same with Yoko Lennon and Linda McCartney.

"Diana and Cher were their own people. I found that exciting. And it was also nice to talk to somebody else about something besides me, cos the girls you meet on the road invariably just want to have your baby, y'know?"

THE DEAD DECADE!

In the '80s, Gene's writing waned as he flirted with an acting career and got bloated on biscuits! Kiss were subsequently eclipsed by Mötley Crüe, Ratt and Bon Jovi.

Paul: "What one should remember is that the moon can eclipse the sun, but the sun is always bigger and the moon soon moves away! We don't feel the need to compete with anyone else. Our track record is so unique and overwhelming that to concern ourselves with who's big this year is ridiculous."

Gene: "I considered myself to be a joke in the '80s. And music in general was a load of crap!

"It was a dangerous time, when music was dictated to by record companies and the people who ran them had never been to a concert – backstage doesn't count – let alone been in a band. But today, rebellion is back in rock 'n' roll. Bands are making records they *want* to make, take it or leave it.

"Our records in the '80s were horrendous, but oddly they continued to sell. We were blessed, but we had no right to be."

KISS' Paul Stanley: kerrazy for Kerrang!

KISS MY ASS!

As the long-awaited tribute album is released to mark 20 years of Kiss, the band have been rediscovered – by themselves!

Paul: "What I've learnt these past years is that the more I'm in touch with our past, the more I'm aware of where this band needs to go in the future.

"The goal has to be honesty and purity. That doesn't mean that we should mimic our past – it means trying to keep the integrity and honesty that was there in the beginning, not fall prey to technology or try and make the perfect album in the studio by using anything that doesn't come from inside of us."

Gene: " 'Kiss My Ass' is the graduation of the Kiss Army. It's about all those card-carrying members who were made fun of in school. It's about a guy like Lenny Kravitz, who was constantly ridiculed for being a Kiss fan. Well, guess what? Those people now have to buy tickets to go see Lenny play.

"And y'know why I keep doing this? Because I believe I have a record as good as 'Destroyer' in me."

NEXT WEEK! ***Whatever happened to ACE FREHLEY and PETER CRISS? And where the hell did latterday Kiss axemen VINNIE VINCENT and MARK ST JOHN disappear to?*** **Kerrang!** ***has tracked 'em down in an exclusive investigative report! Don't miss it, Kiss fans!***

TOOL

on tour

july

1st torhout - torhout festival
2nd werchier - werchier festival
5th berlin - the loft
6th cologne - alter watersaal
7th frankfurt - ratschkapp
8th munich - charierhalle
10th dour - dour festival
12th norwich - waterfront
13th northampton - roadmenders club
15th manchester - university
16th leeds - metro university
17th sheffield - leadmill
19th wolverhampton - wulfren
20th bristol - bierkeller
21st london - shepherds bush empire
23rd arvika - arvika festival
25th nottingham - rock city
26th newcastle - riverside
27th glasgow - garage

the album
undertow
out now

WHITESNAKE

'Greatest Hits'
(EMI 1065)
KKK

DAVID COVERDALE and his White Snake – the biggest double entendre in Rock, and for a while, one of the biggest sellers.

In the late '80s, Coverdale stood proud astride America as one of Hard Rock's greatest icons, and this collection explains why. Simply, Coverdale broke the US by fashioning an MTV-and-FM radio-friendly poodle-permed Led Zeppelin. Of course, this was nothing like the real Zep. Whitesnake merely aped Zep's more bombastic excesses and mixed it up with a little cheesy Pop Metal.

And the Whitesnake of old? That's another story – and one which Coverdale clearly has no intention of repeating. Minus such 'Snake standards as 'Ready An' Willing' and 'Ain't No Love In The Heart Of The City', this is *not* the best of Whitesnake. It is exactly what the label states: Whitesnake's hugest international hits, the stuff that made Coverdale a dollar millionaire.

No track here pre-dates the watershed '1987' album. First up is 'Still Of The Night', the crunching mock-Zeppelin epic which, in America, elevated Whitesnake from support act to superstars. Some of Coverdale's cooing and moaning is ridiculous, but his is one of the classic Rock voices, and the sheer power of the song is undeniable.

Also from '1987' comes the sleek ballad 'Is This Love', another epic in 'Crying In The Rain', and 'Here I Go Again', the first of two tracks Coverdale reworked for the US market. The second of these, 'Fool For Your Loving', was disastrous. The original version, cut in 1980 when Whitesnake were simply a hard-working Blues-based Hard Rock act, had a natural kind of swagger and a bit of soul. The 1990 version toils under the weight of guitarist Steve Vai's virtuosity.

Hiring Vai was Coverdale's biggest 'Snake clanger. Old Cov claimed that Vai's work on the 'Slip Of The Tongue' album constituted "the finest tapestries" since Jimi Hendrix's seminal 'Axis: Bold As Love', but it was bollocks. When Coverdale and Vai attempted to resurrect Zeppelin's 'Kashmir' under the guise of 'Judgement Day', the game was up.

And now this: Whitesnake are back with yet another new line-up. And do Whitesnake matter in 1994? These are burning questions – and only one man has the answers!

Hell, you just can't keep David Coverdale's White Snake down! ***PAUL ELLIOTT***

K-RATINGS

KKKKK – KLASSIK!
KKKK – KILLER!
KKK – KOMPETENT!
KK – KRUSTY!
K – KRAP!

DOWN BY LAW

'Punkrockacademyfightsong'
(Epitaph 86431-2)
KKK

WHERE WASHINGTON DC Punk vet Dave Smalley has surrounded himself with musicians borrowed from other outfits on the previous couple of Down By Law sets, 'Punkrockacademyfightsong' sees him assembling something like a real band. The most notable addition is ex-Clay Idols drummer Hunter Oswald, who shares vocal and writing duties with Smalley.

The result is Down By Law's most cohesive album to date. Which means that, in these 19 tracks, there's more beautifully blistered Punk/Pop songs and fewer chicken-in-a-basket rants. The spitfire melodies of 'Flower Tattoo', 'Bright Green Globe' and 'Heroes And Hooligans' are as

sharp as this sort of thing gets, while something as furious as 'Punk As F**k' almost compensates for the cover of The Proclaimers' '... 500 Miles' and the throwaway likes of 'Sam I'.

Ultimately, any band that can get one of their tunes – 'Soldier Boy' – to sound so much like vintage Stiff Little Fingers has to be pushing the right buttons...

PAUL REES

MOTOCASTER

'Acid Rock'
(Fistpuppet FIST-024)
KKK

THE ALBUM'S called 'Acid Rock', right? They've got a picture of a topless psychedelic girlie playing the drums, and some freaked-out, groovy artwork. Far out!

But when you slap the sucker on... bum trip, man! It starts off as lame Indie Rock backed with the occasional cool solo chucked in to make it sound like the Pink Fairies! An' drummer Jon bears no resemblance to the large-breasted skinbasher on the sleeve...

Presumably, in order to make Acid Rock, you've got to have taken some of the stuff first. My guess, as this album gets progressively better to the point of being really very good indeed, is that said drugs didn't kick in for Motocaster until halfway through the recording – and that when they did, they were extremely strong.

'Acid Rock' ends in a hail of psychedelic guitars that Hendrix himself would be proud of. A shame they didn't peak a little earlier!

MÖRAT

MANTISSA

'Mossy God'
(Polydor 5105342)
KKKK

FORMERLY KNOWN as Killing Time, Melbourne-based Mantissa have managed to negotiate the infamous Aussie pub circuit without becoming another one of those boozy boogie machines Australia produces by the score.

Beyond the fact that both have female bassists, Mantissa share a few other common elements with White Zombie. Both have the same tattooed peacenik-biker image, and both have the same grizzled vocals and sludgy riffs, though Mantissa's are punctured with lemon-sharp lead breaks and interwoven with textures diverse enough to absorb just about everything that is current in Rock '94. This might explain why record company execs have been buzzing all over the world to sign, seal, and deliver this troupe.

If they are all things to all suits, Mantissa manage it without sounding remotely phony, and only lyrics so trippy you can smell the incense let them down. 'Ruby's Mind' and notably, 'Land Of The Living' positively scream commercial potential, so why Polydor have got them on the road Stateside with a lame old donkey like Blue Murder is anybody's guess!

LIAM SHEILS

FEAR OF GOD

'Toxic Voodoo'
(Pavement 76962-32211-2)
KKK

FOUR YEARS after their debut album, 'Within The Veil', leader Dawn Crosby has assembled an all-new Fear Of God line-up and finally recorded a second album.

Fear Of God are an acquired taste. But while Dawn's echoing, somnolent moaning and screams matched Mike Carlin's crushing riffs on the first album, 'Toxic Voodoo' is defeated by a cheap-sounding production and Dawn's own deficiencies. The sound is all barrelling drums, the guitars of Chris Kalandras and Randy Bobzien buzzing helplessly in the background. They emerge from the murk on the likes of 'Feed Time', but it doesn't happen enough.

Some strong songs still shine: opener 'Beyond The Veil' and 'Will Of Evil' are chugging thrashers with relentless rhythms, while 'Santismo' incorporates a melodic section that oddly works. 'Worms' is a menacing closer that almost overcomes the muted sound; Dawn's lyrics continue to be darkly convincing and add to the attempted eerie atmosphere.

With stronger production and a better vocal performance from Dawn, 'Toxic Voodoo' could've been worth the wait.

DON KAYE

JESUS LIZARD

'Show'
(Collision 9 24567-2 import)
KKKK

THE FLOORBOARDS are in for a serious poundin' when Chicago's Jesus Lizard come a-slitherin'. That tension-wire bass, guitars that hack and slice like rusty cheese-wire, rhythms that whack at yer skull like a hundred ball-hammers...

Continuing the Jesus Lizard's tradition of four-letter titles, 'Show' is their live ordeal captured for your pleasure at New York's CBGB's last December. It's also the first slab of Lizard-age to be issued on corporate plastic. No fear: with an Albini-produced elpee in the can, the Jesus Lizard haven't sold themselves to corporate rockdom just yet. They were just handed a fat wad of cash for their troubles and gave Corporate City this bit of shrapnel to chew on.

It's prime Jesus Lizard rampage. Demons. Alcohol. Irrationality. All spewing from the mouth of Senor Yow like Tourette's Syndrome as the band whip through the acidic riffola of 'Puss' or 'Gladiator'; the energised meltdown of 'Killer Mchann', or 'Monkey Trick', which might as well be an outtake from 'Mutiny In Heaven'-era Birthday Party. At peak volume, it's masochist's music: engaging and horrible.

It feels like sex anyway. Sweaty, pumping, awkward, angry, without much thought about anything but the very act itself. If you've been party to the live Jesus Lizard spectacle, you'll probably agree. 'Show' is a brutal ear-rape. Nothing like f**king in public.

GORDON GOLDSTEIN

AT THE GATES
'Terminal Spirit Disease'
(Peaceville VILE 47CD)
KKK

CATCHY DEATH? Yes indeed, you can *almost* hum the odd At The Gates tune.

These searing Swedes are also as heavy as you like. Their melodic Rottweiler routine is a style they've been steadily cultivating over the course of two albums, 'The Red In The Sky Is Ours' and the amazingly-titled 'With Fear I Kiss The Burning Darkness'.

The new material is excellent – chockfull of thrashing rhythms, tunefully epic riffage and the gnashing of fish-mad vocalist Tomas. Songs like the title track and 'Forever Blind' are the best we've yet heard from the band.

Unfortunately, At The Gates have chosen to release these songs on one of those awkward 'semi-albums'. 'Terminal Spirit Disease' isn't an album in the strictest sense, consisting of an intro, five new studio tracks and three live cuts. At full price, it's not quite good enough.

A mini-album would have been a better idea. The live material has been reasonably well recorded, although the tracks 'All Life Ends' and 'The Burning Darkness' are more like inferior 'Pleasure To Kill'-era Kreator than the delights of their latest killers.

At The Gates are now more exciting than fellow countrymen Entombed. All they need is the right vehicle to prove it.

JASON ARNOPP

BWF
'Un-Sentimental'
(Restless advance CD)
KKK

WANNA BE in my gang? My gang's better than your gang. More of my gang have been beaten up and done time, sold crack and robbed grocery stores.

"I haven't done drugs in six years," says BWF's Dale Henderson. "They serve no positive purpose. But the way I and others lived was because of the neighbourhood..."

And this from a band who used to be called Beowulf, and now look like beach geeks! The Californian quartet have sussed that a drive-by shooting is infinitely more politically correct than any stairway to heaven, and consequently join the long line of cod-hardball brickies who scuff around the fringes of Metal like pissed-off lay preachers.

So BWF announce that they are "down-hippie Punk". This, their third record, grinds like B-side Leatherface and takes the occasional turn down more melancholic avenues. 'Cast Away' is a blast. 'Special One' is a gentle weepy. 'Pissed Off White Boy' is about BWF getting narky with something, and 'Hole In My Pocket' is about being skint. There's tons of stuff about drugs and gangs and shit; a tour around the problems of the world, and back in time for tea.

'Un-Sentimental' is bleak and kind of right on the button. Compulsion said it better with 'Mall Monarchy'...

CHRIS WATTS

LAST CRACK
'Runheadstartscreaming'
(Diamonds DD1830)
KKK

IT REALLY doesn't seem that long ago that Last Crack was a name often uttered in the same breath as Pearl Jam, Alice In Chains and Jane's Addiction. This once fascinating band (who were formerly signed to Roadrunner Records) released two major albums, including the acclaimed 'Burning Time', before the usual personality clashes and 'musical differences' caused them to lose their grip on what they almost grasped. That, plus the fact they weren't from Seattle.

The band's comeback album is an 11-tracker featuring new singer Shawn Anthony Brown. For the most part, it continues Last Crack's curious and slightly sinister *danse macabre*. 'Squeeze It' is an unimaginative opener, but the creeping 'Her' and 'Theory' – which can't quite decide what it wants to be – are typically enigmatic.

'Fill The Cup' is the only new song to tiptoe bashfully in the shadow of Pearl Jam, but the best thing that can be said about Last Crack, on the strength of this album, is that they aren't imitating anyone. Brown's high-pitched vocal tones are more a Perry Farrell/Chris Cornell crossbreed than anything truly derivative. Musically, 'Forest Mother' and 'Deeper Digging' are the more intriguing moments, touches of Tribe After Tribe's native rhythms rearing up to shade the album in mystery.

Seattle's branch is now almost bereft of leaves, leaving Last Crack looking distinctly like an oddity that Grunge forgot. The band dress like dole queuers and write sensitive lyrics that plead to be taken seriously. Glamour, outrage and (gasp!) actual melodies are elements long overlooked. Last Crack never had 'em to start with.

While still worthy of attention and a pleasant curiosity, Last Crack are unlikely to sting you.

STEVE BEEBEE

SAGA
'Steel Umbrellas'
(Polydor 523 054-2 import)
KKKK

CANADIAN HI-TECH Pomp gods Saga haven't sat around doing nothing in the past year. With their last LP, the disappointing 'Security Of Illusion', passing its sell-by date, the quintet strike back with the far superior 'Steel Umbrellas' album – a much more cohesive affair.

Blessed with the usual in-your-face production job of the kind that has graced all their records since 1985's 'Behaviour', 'Steel Umbrellas' opens with 'Why Not?', featuring everything required in a Saga track; loads of melody, taut Ian Crichton guitar riffs, keyboard frills and a bold Michael Sadler vocal. 'Bet On This' is more of the same, the pair sandwiching the smoother tones of '(You Were) Never Alone'.

'Shake That Tree' features the first of two lead vocal performances by Jim Gilmour (the other is the distinctly average ballad 'Say Goodbye To Hollywood'), and is by far one of the album's stand-out cuts, with percussion and keyboard sound very reminiscent of earlier times. The rather sensual female vocal complementing Gilmour is supplied by Paula Mattioli, better known performing in Gypsy Queen and Cellmates.

With the likes of 'Feed The Fire', the innuendo-filled 'Steamroller', the up-tempo 'Password Pirate', the gorgeous ballad 'I Walk With You' highlighting the emotional side to the band, and 'Push It' adding your typical Saga Rock bite, 'Steel Umbrellas' is a fine effort.

I was sceptical on first play, but this damn album has rarely been off my Death Deck since...

DAVE REYNOLDS

INCUBUS SUCCUBUS
'Wytches'
(Pagan Media PMR CD7)
KKK

EVER SINCE it was revealed that Venom *weren't* the spawn of hell, any band with a philosophical axe to grind – in this case, Paganism – have been suspected of mere image-making.

Incubus Succubus are for real, but their lyrics on ecology, sexuality and denial of the Christian tradition are laced with reality and social comment. 'Song To Pan' and 'Pagan Born' are largely nonsense, but 'Leveller' can easily be read as a warning to an unjust society, and 'Burning Times', in this age of resurgent fascism, is a reminder of the evil of intolerance.

Skyclad are an obvious reference point. Sonically, Incubus Succubus are much more lightweight, even leaning towards All About Eve on the melancholy ballad 'Gypsy Lament'. Nonetheless, 'Wytches' is almost enthralling.

LIAM SHEILS

DAZZLING KILLMEN

'Face Of Collapse' (Skin Graft GR12CD)

KKK

WITH NO disrespect intended, the only way to describe this band is by saying that it's what you'd expect if you put an epileptic Hardcore act in a studio and switched some strobes on!

Actually, Dazzling Killmen are from St Louis, and their racket is a lot more structured than that description suggests; but they are no less intense. They get into the heavy, early Rollins-like groove, then they'll fly off the handle in a totally different direction like a ricocheting bullet. The Killmen's live shows are probably worth killing for.

My only complaint is that there seems to be a slight Jazz infusion – and to be blunt, I *hate* Jazz, even if it pummels at you like a dozen trendies in a Saturday night punch-up! But I'll probably live to regret only giving this three Ks, when with time it will be worth five! Kill 'em all! ***MÖRAT***

THE DAMNED

'Eternally Damned: The Very Best Of The Damned' (MCI MUSCD017)

KKK

THE DAMNED were, for a very great period of time, my favourite band in the world. So it might come as something of a surprise that this album is only awarded a cursory three Ks.

The fact is, though, that while this 20-track opus contains some of the greatest songs every written, along with a well constructed and accurate history of the band by Mark Brennan of *Record Collector* magazine, we really don't *need* another Damned compilation!

And although the record does give a fair representation of the band's back catalogue, a lot of their older, loyal fans won't like everything here. I mean, 'Grimly Fiendish' on the same album as 'Stretcher Case' and 'I Just Can't Be Happy Today', for Christ's sake? Blasphemy! It's like wanking in the Vatican or something – you just don't do it!

That said, if you like Guns N' Roses' cover of 'New Rose' and that was perhaps your first introduction to The Damned – and you really can't find the early albums in the shops – then this mid-price album would be a reasonable starting point for developing an unhealthy interest. ***MÖRAT***

GREAT WHITE

'Sail Away' (Zoo 72445-11080-2 import)

KKKK

A MORE subdued offering, but an infinitely classier affair than Great White's last outing, 'Sail Away' finds the LA-based act have recharged their batteries and have begun to write decent songs again.

Now basing themselves around a more acoustic, sometimes Country-ish direction, this is a change for the better. 'Mother's Eyes', 'Cryin' ' and 'Alone' are all deep from the heart, as is the sheer poetry of the beautiful title track. But lest you think that Great White have abandoned all their Rock ideals, 'Momma Don't Stop' springs up and is as catchy as they come.

'Sail Away' is initially being offered with an additional seven-track CD recorded live in Anaheim, California, last July. Intended as an added incentive to buy this new album, the live stuff is actually capable of standing on its own. Good one.

DAVE REYNOLDS

SKATENIGS

'What A Mangled Web We Leave' (Red Light 88371-4)

KKK

LIKE THEIR previous album, 'Stupid People Shouldn't Breed', the latest work from these Texan weirdos is fun to listen to, but not a completely satisfying experience.

Traversing territory somewhere between Ministry and the Butthole Surfers, Skatenigs combine the former's hard-edged, mechanised sound with the latter's lunatic sense of humour and satire. There's plenty of cool noises all over 'What A Mangled Web We Leave', and the band's strongest talent is their creativity with electronics, sampling and offbeat instrumentation.

However, the songs themselves are nothing spectacular. A tune devoid of much of their sonic weirdness, 'Parasites', is rendered rather bland by a generic Metal riff. The same almost goes for 'Sign On The Dotted Line', which is saved by some neat organ playing.

The best moments on the album come early, when songs like 'Passion For Destruction' and 'Regret' combine the band's experimentation with some truly menacing music. The rest of the album is promising, but ultimately unfulfilling.

DON KAYE

MERCYFUL FATE

'The Bellwitch' (Metal Blade CDMZORRO 78)

K

THERE IS such a thing as living on past glories, and there is such a thing as kidding yourself. Take the unfortunate plight of inane shrieker King Diamond. Having failed miserably to scare anyone with his impersonation of a shrunken Gene Simmons (ie, his solo career), the Danish fruitcake inexplicably reformed his old band Mercyful Fate. Maybe Lars Ulrich mentioned them in an interview or something...

'The Bellwitch' is a mini-album made up of two new songs and four live recordings. Hot on the heels of Fate's "comeback" album, 'In The Shadows', it is horrible. The new recordings, 'The Bellwitch' and 'Is That You, Melissa?', offer little that Diamond hasn't warbled before. Admittedly, '...Melissa?' has some surprisingly melodic harmonies, but does little to redeem this utterly pointless release.

The live material will have you gnashing your teeth and furrowing your brow in horror. As those Jurassic Metal guitars do their predictable grind, Diamond's hopelessly thin, needling voice cracks, breaks and ultimately falls to pieces. 'Come To The Sabbath' rejoices in its discordant gloom. This is truly monstrous.

Mercyful Fate remind you how bad early '80s Metal could be when it really was at its worst. Poor old King Diamond has become a comic, pantomime vampire with no real fangs. For him, this isn't so much a rebirth as a re*death*! ***STEVE BEEBEE***

REKOMMENDED!

THE MIGHTIEST METAL FROM THE PAST MONTH!

STONE TEMPLE PILOTS

'Purple' (Atlantic) KKKKK

A classic slice of contemporary Hard Rock... ***MIKE PEAKE, issue 497***

VARIOUS

'Kiss My Ass' (Phonogram) KKKK

Will be bought by everyone whose life has been touched by Kiss... ***STEVE BEEBEE, issue 498***

BEASTIE BOYS

'Ill Communication' (Capitol/Grand Royal) KKKK

A 20-track ball of Brat Rap attitude... ***PHIL ALEXANDER, issue 498***

HELMET

'Betty' (EastWest) KKKK

A monolithic testimony to the band's aggression... ***DON KAYE, issue 499***

BOSTON

'Walk On' (MCA) KKKKK

The finest Boston album since their groundbreaking 1976 debut... ***DAVE REYNOLDS, issue 499***

KYUSS

'Sky Valley' (Elektra) KKKK

*Simply the biggest f**kin' sound around in 1994...* ***DON KAYE, issue 500***

CRACKER

'Kerosene Hat' (Virgin) KKKK

Fusing honeyed Pop melodies with stoner Metal guitar licks... ***MARK BLAKE, issue 500***

ATOMIC OPERA

'For Madmen Only' (Collision import) KKKK

One of '94s coolest major releases... ***DAVE REYNOLDS, issue 500***

WATCH OUT FOR...

Gilby Clarke's **'Pawn Shop Guitars'** opus, now delayed till July 25... **L7**'s **'Hungry For Stink'**, comin' on July 11... the long-awaited new **Gun** album **'Swagger'**, due on July 18... plus albums from **Killing Joke**, **Pro-Pain** and **Bryan Adams** to boot! Watch this space!

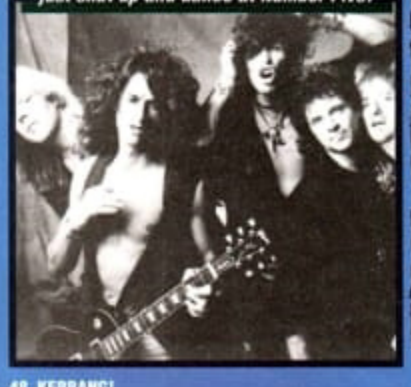
CHART ATTACK!

SINGLES

1	11	MIDDLEMAN Terrorvision (EMI)
2	2	FASTER/PCP Manic Street Preachers (Columbia)
3	3	SINCE I DON'T HAVE YOU Guns N' Roses (Geffen)
4	1	CLOSER Nine Inch Nails (Island)
5	–	SHUT UP AND DANCE Aerosmith (Geffen)
6	9	BISCUITS FOR SMUT Helmet (Interscope)
7	4	DIE LAUGHING Therapy? (A&M)
8	8	INSIDE Stiltskin (White Water)
9	6	LOW Cracker (Virgin)
10	7	DISSIDENT Pearl Jam (Epic)
11	5	FIVE MINUTES ALONE Pantera (EastWest)
12	13	SLAVE NEW WORLD Sepultura (Roadrunner)
13	10	TEARS OF THE DRAGON Bruce Dickinson (EMI)
14	12	LOST IN AMERICA Alice Cooper (Epic)
15	14	MAN MADE HELL Skyscraper (Food/EMI)
16	16	BASKETCASE Compulsion (One Little Indian)
17	15	THIS TIME Life Of Agony (Roadrunner)
18	18	THE MONEY EP Skin (EMI)
19	17	LAIBACH REMIXES Morbid Angel (Earache)
20	19	MOTHER Danzig (American)

Chart compiled by MMB

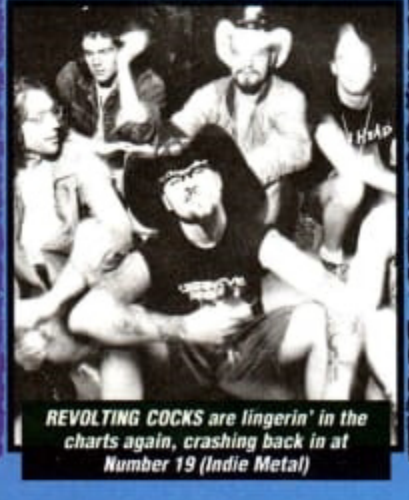
TERRORVISION hit Number One with 'Middleman' (Singles), while AEROSMITH just shut up and dance at Number Five!



INDIE METAL

1	2	ARIA Asia (Bulletproof/Music For Nations)
2	1	SUITS Fish (Dick Bros)
3	3	STACKED UP Senser (Ultimate)
4	4	CHAOS AD Sepultura (Roadrunner)
5	5	FEAR, EMPTINESS, DESPAIR Napalm Death (Earache)
6	7	POINT BLANK Hailbomb (Roadrunner)
7	6	FREEWHEELIN' Electric Boys (Music For Nations)
8	11	XC-NN XC-NN (Transglobal)
9	9	THE SEVENTH SIGH Yngwie Malmsteen (Music For Nations)
10	10	ALL BORO KINGS Dog Eat Dog (Roadrunner)
11	13	COMFORTER Compulsion (One Little Indian)
12	12	TELLIN' STORIES Walter Trout Band (Silvertone)
13	16	THE BLEEDING Cannibal Corpse (Metal Blade)
14	18	FROM NOW ON... Glenn Hughes (Roadrunner)
15	15	SUSHI Fish (Dick Bros)
16	14	CROWN OF THORNS Crown Of Thorns (Now And Then)
17	17	STRENGTH IN NUMBERS Tyketto (Music For Nations)
18	19	GENTLEMEN Afghan Whigs (Blast First)
19	re	LINGER FICKEN' GOOD Revolting Cocks (Devotion)
20	20	HEARTWORK Carcass (Earache)

Chart compiled by MMB

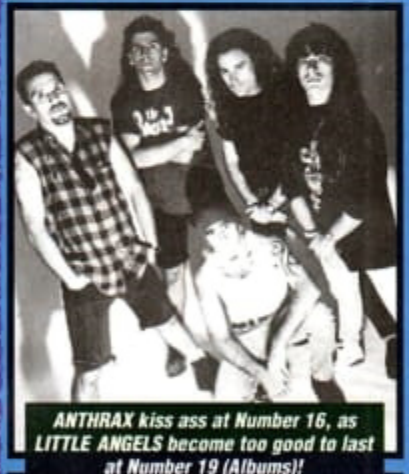


REVOLTING COCKS are lingerin' in the charts again, crashing back in at Number 19 (Indie Metal)

ALBUMS

1	1	THE LAST TEMPTATION Alice Cooper (Epic)
2	2	PURPLE Stone Temple Pilots (Atlantic)
3	12	WALK ON Boston (Columbia)
4	4	AROUND THE NEXT DREAM BBM (Virgin)
5	6	STATE OF THE WORLD ADDRESS Biohazard (Warner Bros)
6	3	BALLS TO PICASSO Bruce Dickinson (EMI)
7	–	KEROSENE HAT Cracker (Virgin)
8	11	PANDORA'S TOYS Aerosmith (Geffen)
9	10	ARIA Asia (Bulletproof/Music For Nations)
10	7	SUITS Fish (Dick Bros)
11	5	ROCK ART Magnum (EMI)
12	15	THE CROW – ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK Various (EastWest)
13	18	IN UTERO Nirvana (Geffen)
14	19	NEVERMIND Nirvana (Geffen)
15	re	HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE Terrorvision (Total Vegas/EMI)
16	–	KISS MY ASS Various (Mercury)
17	9	KERRANG! THE ALBUM Various (The Hit Label)
18	re	GET A GRIP Aerosmith (Geffen)
19	–	TOO POSH TO MOSH, TOO GOOD TO LAST Little Angels (Essential)
20	re	AUGUST AND EVERYTHING AFTER Counting Crows (Geffen)

Chart compiled by MMB



ANTHRAX kiss ass at Number 16, as LITTLE ANGELS become too good to last at Number 19 (Albums)!

ON THE DEATH DECK!

The hot 'n' happening sounds currently bein' played by Metal stars, Kerrang! writers and readers!

STAR TRAX

Not so tubby tub-thumping loony SHUTTY of TERRORVISION divulges the sounds currently gracing his personal Death Deck!

1 DEAF DUMB BLIND Clawfinger
2 US3 Cantaloop
3 LOW Cracker
4 OVERKILL Motörhead
5 IN UTERO Nirvana

READERS CHART

THIS WEEK: a melodic maelstrom courtesy of MAGS BARON from Blackpool!

1 BED OF ROSES Bon Jovi
2 THE HEALER Crown Of Thorns
3 COLOURBLIND Skin
4 REMEMBER Aces High
5 GOODBYE TO THE NIGHT Shotgun Symphony
6 MEET ME IN THE NIGHT Tyketto
7 LOVE IS LETHAL Le Compt
8 TELL ME A STORY Slyboyz
9 IN THESE ARMS Bon Jovi
10 JESUS FREAK Pariah

BIG K! PLAYLISTS

DAVE REYNOLDS
FOR THE LOVE OF STRANGE MEDICINE Steve Perry (Columbia advance tape)
CRISS Criss (TNT advance tape)
VAGABOND Vagabond (EMI Norway)

PAUL ELLIOTT
BORN DEAD Body-Motherf**kin'-Count (Virgin advance tape)
FOR THE LOVE OF STRANGE MEDICINE Steve Perry (Columbia advance tape)
GREATEST HITS Whitesnake (EMI)

JASON ARNOPP
SUITS Fish (Dick Bros)
W.F.O. Overkill (EastWest advance tape)
SUCKERPUNCH The Wildhearts (EastWest)

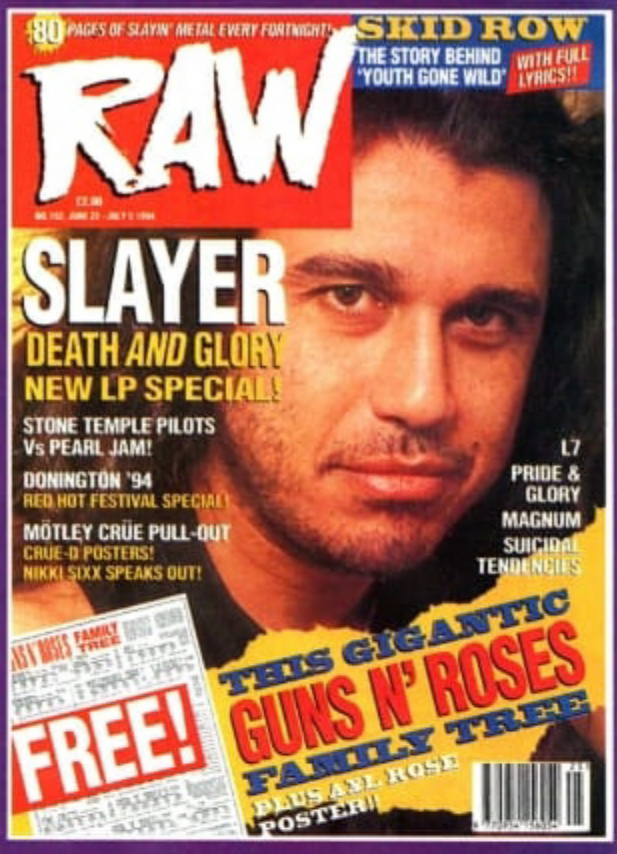
RAY ZELL
XC-NN XC-NN (Transglobal)
SUPERUNKNOWN Soundgarden (A&M)
SMELL THE MAGIC L7 (Slash/London)

CHRIS WATTS
THE OBSESSIONS AND PASSIONS OF JANIS JOPLIN (biography by Ellis Amburn, Warner Books)
MAN MADE HELL Skyscraper (Food/EMI)
ROCK STARS EP Dollface (Kill City)

PAUL REES
SWAGGER Gun (A&M advance tape)
SKY VALLEY Kyuss (Elektra)
VENUS LUXURE No. 1 BABY Girls Against Boys (Touch And Go)

PHIL ALEXANDER
BURN MY EYES Machine Head (Roadrunner advance tape)
WORLD DEMISE Obituary (Roadrunner advance tape)
SKY VALLEY Kyuss (Elektra)

STEVE BEEBEE
RATS Sass Jordan (Impact/EMI)
SHAVED FISH John Lennon (EMI)
The entire NINE INCH NAILS back catalogue! (Island)



FREE!
GUNS N' ROSES
HUGE FAMILY TREE
HANG IT HIGH!!

SLAYER
SHOW NO MERCY IN THE STUDIO!

PLUS!

SKID ROW: THE STORY BEHIND 'YOUTH GONE WILD'!
STONE TEMPLE PILOTS VS PEARL JAM!

RAW ISSUE 152 ON SALE NOW!

HARD ROCKIN' HIPPY CHICK!

That's SASS JORDAN, a ballsy, raw-voiced Hard Rock wailer who's sick of music biz bullshit, but has plenty of friends in high places – including Thunder, Stevie Salas, Richie Kotzen 'n' Cheap Trick! DAVE REYNOLDS hangs with Sass on her US tour and discovers what makes the chick tick!

SASS JORDAN sits in the Lotus position on a chair in a Holiday Inn motel room, with her side-kick, guitarist Stevie Salas, slumped on the sofa to her right.

They're here on America's East Coast, in Wilmington, North Carolina, ready to give it some at the Mad Monk, the local Rock dive. Sass and band are on the road plugging her third album, 'Rats' – a Blues-soaked Rock record boasting guest appearances from former Poison axeman Richie Kotzen, Cheap Trick bassist Tom Petersson, Pride & Glory drummer Brian Tischy and one-time Chili Peppers producer and P-Funk legend George Clinton.

And if all that wasn't enough to establish her Hard Rock credibility, Sass made her first UK live appearance as a guest of Thunder at the Brixton Academy last December, and was slated to support Extreme on a UK theatre tour this Summer; the tour was pulled when Extreme failed to finish their long-delayed fourth album, 'Waiting For The Punchline'.

> ***"I'm a musician, I like all kinds of music. I'd do f**kin' Jazz if I could get away with it! But for some reason you have to be this one thing..." – SASS JORDAN***

SASS JORDAN was born in Birmingham, and lived in France for three years before her family relocated to Montreal, Canada. And it was on Montreal's club scene that she got her first break, fronting a covers act called the Pin-Ups.

"We started to make a lot of noise around the city, and a local promoter caught on and smelt money!" Sass laughs dryly. "And after the band broke up he signed me cos I wanted to go solo. A f**kin' dumb manoeuvre, there!"

Sass' first solo LP, 'Tell Somebody', was released in 1989. She hates it!

"I waited three years only to find that we really didn't have any money to make the album! That's why there's sequencers and drum machines on there, which I never ever want to be involved with again!

"But that record seemed to strike a chord," she shrugs. "People went crazy over it, even though the cover makes it look like a f**kin' Dance record! I don't know why, but that stupid record still sells to this day!"

Towards the end of '89 Sass relocated to Los Angeles, where fate would eventually lead her to Stevie Salas' door. Salas had just finished work on his debut Stevie Salas Colorcode album for Island (released in early 1990). His A&R man at the label was trying to sign Sass.

She recalls: "This guy kept tellin' me how brilliant this Stevie Salas was – blah, blah, blah. When I hear a lot of hype about someone I just think, 'Well he probably sucks!', y'know?!

"But he was okay," she grins. "We got along!"

IF SASS Jordan sounded like Tina Turner on the first album, on the second ('Racine', 1992) she came on like the late and legendary gravel-voiced, whiskey-swillin' white Blues howler Janis Joplin. Salas helped Sass' transition from Pop Rock Princess to Bluesy Retro Hippy Chick.

"As successful as it eventually was, I didn't like the first album," Sass admits. "It was way too Poppy."

Sass grew up listening to earthy Soul greats like Sly And The Family Stone, Curtis Mayfield and Al Green; and, of course, the gritty rock 'n' roll of The Rolling Stones and The Faces.

"That was the kind of music I really wanted to make, but I was told that it would never get on the radio, so what I did was the second best thing; I went with something that wasn't selling me out to the point where I was uncomfortable doing it. And thank God I did!

> ***"I've stuck at things, despite wanting to give up a million times because of the f**kin' games and bollocks that occur in the business..." – SASS JORDAN***

"I'm a musician, I like all kinds of music. I'd do f**kin' Jazz if I could get away with it! But it's all a question of marketing a product. As an artist you're the product, and if you do want to do whatever the hell you want, people just say 'Well, what is she trying to be?'. For some reason you have to be this one thing."

"We've got a big problem with that," snaps Salas.

"Whatever," sighs Sass. "At least with every record I can grow. I've got no intention of ever repeating myself, doing the same f**kin' thing over and over."

JORDAN has sung her heart out and worked her ass off for 17 years. The worldwide release of 'Rats' should finally see her gaining the rewards for all that sweat.

"This business is hard work," she assures. "I'm finally making a decent living after all these years, but I'm not rich by any means. I've stuck at things, despite wanting to give up a million times because of the f**kin' games and bollocks that occur in the business. This business *is* mainly bollocks, isn't it?!

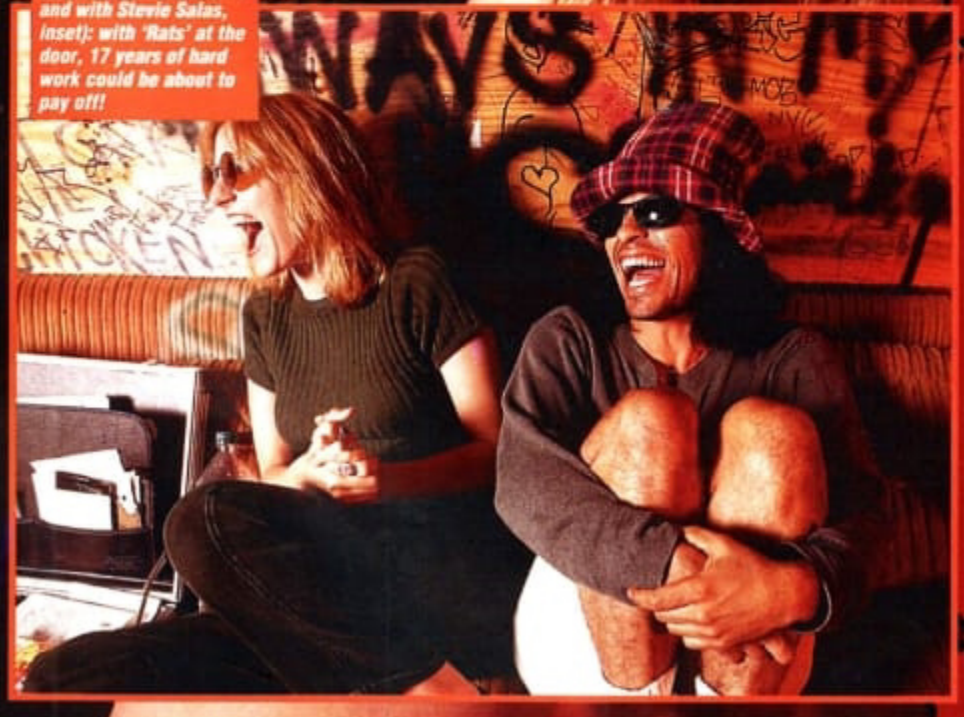
"Y'know," she cackles, "I think I'm gonna call my next record 'Mainly Bollocks!'"

Sass Jordan is indeed a woman with balls!

Phil Ray Palmer

FREAKY FUNKIN' WEIRDO!

Where the hell has cult Funk Rock hero STEVIE SALAS been for the past four years? DAVE REYNOLDS grills the Sass Jordan six-stringer!



SASS JORDAN (main pic, and with Stevie Salas, inset): with 'Rats' at the door, 17 years of hard work could be about to pay off!

STEVIE SALAS first came to the attention of *Kerrang!* readers with the release of the eponymous Stevie Salas Colorcode debut. The album was issued through Island in 1990 – a release full of what I once described as 'heart attack guitar-smothered Funk Rock', but with plenty of Blues to boot. The LP was a cult rave, and the Colorcode played a string of UK club gigs during that year.

Originally from San Diego, Salas moved to LA in 1985 where he met his mentor, Funk godfather George Clinton. As leader of twin '70s Funk giants Parliament and Funkadelic, Clinton attained legend status. When he invited the raw Salas to play on his 'R'n'B Skeletons In The Closet' album, it was a dream come true for the young guitarist.

Incredibly, Salas then got what amounted to "the gig of a lifetime" in Rod Stewart's touring band.

Stevie recalls with relish: "I'd barely seen a tour bus and here I was flying around in private jets and sharing stretch limos with a dozen naked models!"

After the Rod tour, Salas went back to the bread 'n' butter of session playing and production work. He then formed Colorcode with drummer Winston A Watson and bassist CJ DeVillar, the latter ex-0 of failed US art rockers Dear Mr President, whose classic debut album was produced by none other than Mick Jones – guitarist and founder member of AOR legends Foreigner!

Colorcode is currently on ice while Stevie tours with Sass, who looks upon this guitar genius affectionately as "family". There has been no official follow-up to the Colorcode debut, although a number of low-key releases have emerged in Japan and Canada.

Salas devotees should keep an eye out for his latest collaboration with Parliament bass god Bootsy Collins alongside Blues guitarist Buddy Miles in a project called Hardware. An album, titled 'Third Eye Open', is to be released shortly on the Ryko label.

BACK ISSUE BONANZA!

Missing an issue of The World's Greatest Heavy Metal Magazine? Well, now's yer chance to komplete yer kollektion! Here's a list of the last fierce 50 issues of the Big K! which are still available, with a list of their krucial kontentz!

K! 449 – THE BLACK CROWES COVER
Metallica, Therapy?, Trouble, Mind Funk, Cathedral, Manic Street Preachers.

K! 450 – SKID ROW/PANTERA COVER
Deicide, Megadeth, Suicidal Tendencies, Little Angels, Fear Factory, Terrorvision.

K! 451 – ALICE IN CHAINS COVER
Freak Of Nature, Rage Against The Machine, Napalm Death, The Cult, Iron Maiden, VoiVod.

K! 452 – FAITH NO MORE COVER
Smashing Pumpkins, Bon Jovi, Pearl Jam, Bad Religion, Sugar, Mercyful Fate.

K! 453 – METALLICA COVER
Masters Of Reality, Love/Hate, Robert Plant, Dan Reed, Deicide, Manic Street Preachers.

K! 454 – GUNS N' ROSES COVER
Faith No More, The Black Crowes, Love/Hate, The Wildhearts, Motörhead.

K! 455 – NIRVANA COVER
Rage Against The Machine, Cry Of Love, Therapy?, Steve Vai, Suicidal Tendencies.

K! 456 – THE ALMIGHTY
Helmet, Megadeth pull-out, Arcade, Ozzy Osbourne, Pantera poster outsert.

K! 457 – OZZY OSBOURNE COVER
Anthrax, Fishbone, Testament, Body Count, Clawfinger, The Almighty.

K! 458 – RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE COVER
Therapy?, Aerosmith, Iron Maiden, Stone Temple Pilots, Paradise Lost.

K! 459 – BON JOVI COVER
The Wildhearts, Sick Of It All, Baby Animals, Rage Against The Machine. Massive Metallica poster part one.

K! 460 – SOUNDGARDEN COVER
Bon Jovi, Flipper, Iron Maiden, Reading Festival review. Massive Metallica poster part two.

K! 461 – GUNS N' ROSES COVER
Cry Of Love, Slayer, Bon Jovi, Biohazard, Rick Rubin. Massive Metallica poster part three.

K! 462 – MINISTRY COVER
Paw, Redd Kross, Mr Big, Entombed, Little Angels pull-out, The Wildhearts. Massive Metallica poster part four.

K! 463 – WILDHEARTS/ALMIGHTY COVER
Pantera, Skid Row, Poison, Death, Pearl Jam.

K! 464 – SEPULTURA COVER
W.A.S.P., Alice In Chains, Babes In Toyland, Fishbone, Cro-Mags.

K! 465 – DEF LEPPARD COVER
Paw, Raging Slab, Bon Jovi, Die Cheerleader, Glam Lives pull-out.

K! 466 – PEARL JAM COVER
Def Leppard, Hater, Mötley Crüe, Joe Satriani, Lemmy.

K! 467 – LED ZEPPELIN COVER
Blind Melon, Carcass, Fight, Aerosmith, Raging Slab, Iron Maiden.

K! 468 – MÖTLEY CRÜE COVER
Anthrax, Terrorvision, Guns N' Roses, Motörhead, Deep Purple, Warrior Soul.

K! 469 – SKID ROW COVER
Damn The Machine, W.A.S.P., Fight, Iron Maiden, Manic Street Preachers.

K! 470 – AEROSMITH COVER
Genitorturers, Cro-Mags, Freak Of Nature, Anthrax, Dream Theater, Anti-Nowhere League, Punk's Not Dead feature.

K! 471 – METALLICA COVER
Girls Against Boys, Kerbdog, Heart, Mike Monroe, Rush, The Scorpions.

K! 472 – MANIC STREET PREACHERS COVER
Napalm Death, Guns N' Roses, Sepultura, Little Angels, Skid Row, Carcass, The Damned.

K! 473 – NIRVANA COVER
Die Cheerleader, Little Angels, White Zombie, Aerosmith, Iggy Pop, Sepultura, Bon Jovi.

K! 474 – BON JOVI COVER
Redd Kross, Cry Of Love, Robert Plant, Death Metal Lives! feature, Guns N' Roses, Body Count.

K! 475 – FAITH NO MORE COVER
Thunder, Bon Jovi, Phantom Blue, Def Leppard, Readers Poll, Tips For '94.

K! 476 – GUNS N' ROSES COVER
ZZ Top, Cannibal Corpse, Def Leppard, Kiss Special, Melvins.

K! 477 – THERAPY? COVER
Pantera, Motörhead, Iron Maiden, Megadeth, Hawkwind, Megadeth, Henry Rollins, Dave Lombardo and Voodoocult.

K! 478 – ALICE IN CHAINS COVER
Sepultura, Motörhead, Bon Jovi, ZZ Top, Prong, Kings X.

K! 479 – SKID ROW COVER
Pitch Shifter, Terrorvision, Sepultura, Mötley Crüe, Redd Kross.

K! 480 – THE WILDHEARTS
Carcass, Bryan Adams, Manic Street Preachers, Little Angels, Soundgarden.

K! 481 – SOUNDGARDEN COVER
Mötley Crüe, Aerosmith, Bay Area Thrash feature, Black Sabbath, ZZ Top, Ugly Kid Joe, White Zombie.

K! 482 – MÖTLEY CRÜE COVER
Mötley Crüe, Sepultura, Venom, Testament, Marillion, The Wildhearts, Skin, Alice In Chains.

K! 483 – BON JOVI COVER
Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Almighty, Soundgarden.

K! 484 – PANTERA COVER
Ozzy Osbourne, Therapy?, Extreme, Nine Inch Nails, Mötley Crüe.

K! 485 – GUNS N' ROSES COVER
White Zombie, Paradise Lost, Henry Rollins, Led Zeppelin, L7.

K! 486 – MEAT LOAF COVER
Nailbomb, Guns N' Roses video pull-out, Little Angels. Pantera outsert.

K! 487 – BRUCE DICKINSON COVER
Soundgarden, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Slayer, Nine Inch Nails.

K! 488 – LITTLE ANGELS COVER
Metallica, Guns N' Roses, Woodstock '94, The Wildhearts, Pearl Jam.

K! 489 – HENRY ROLLINS COVER
Def Leppard, Bon Jovi, Sepultura, Guns N' Roses.

K! 490 – KURT COBAIN COVER
SOLD OUT!

K! 491 – TERRORVISION COVER
Soundgarden, Deicide, Danzig, Cheap Trick, Def Leppard, Kurt Cobain memorial pull-out.

K! 492 – PEARL JAM COVER
Guns N' Roses, Led Zeppelin, The Black Crowes, Sepultura.

K! 493 – SEPULTURA MURDER COVER
Rollins, Whitesnake, Alice Cooper, Stone Temple Pilots, Therapy?, Skin, Paradise Lost, The Wildhearts.

K! 494 – GUNS N' ROSES COVER
Aerosmith, Extreme, Biohazard, Black Metal Murder.

K! 495 – MEGADETH STUDIO EXCLUSIVE COVER
Sebastian Bach on Kurt Cobain, Senser, Rap Metal report, Guns N' Roses.

K! 496 – PANTERA COVER
Nine Inch Nails, Skin, Megadeth, Faith No More, Mötley Crüe.

K! 497 – AEROSMITH COVER
Obituary, Danzig, Prong, Little Angels, Bon Jovi, Aerosmith.

K! 498 – BRUCE DICKINSON COVER
Suicidal Tendencies, Nine Inch Nails, Paradise Lost, Pearl Jam, Megadeth. Free massive Monsters Of Rock '94 poster.

K! 499 – SLAYER STUDIO EXCLUSIVE COVER
Huge 80-page issue! Alice Cooper, Stone Temple Pilots, Metallica. 20-page post-Donington pull-out!

All issues are priced £1.60 (inc P&P) and are available from Kerrang! Bakk Issues, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF. All cheques/postal orders are payable to 'EMAP Metro'. Remember to include your name and address! Allow 28 days for delivery – and always remember that we're only human!

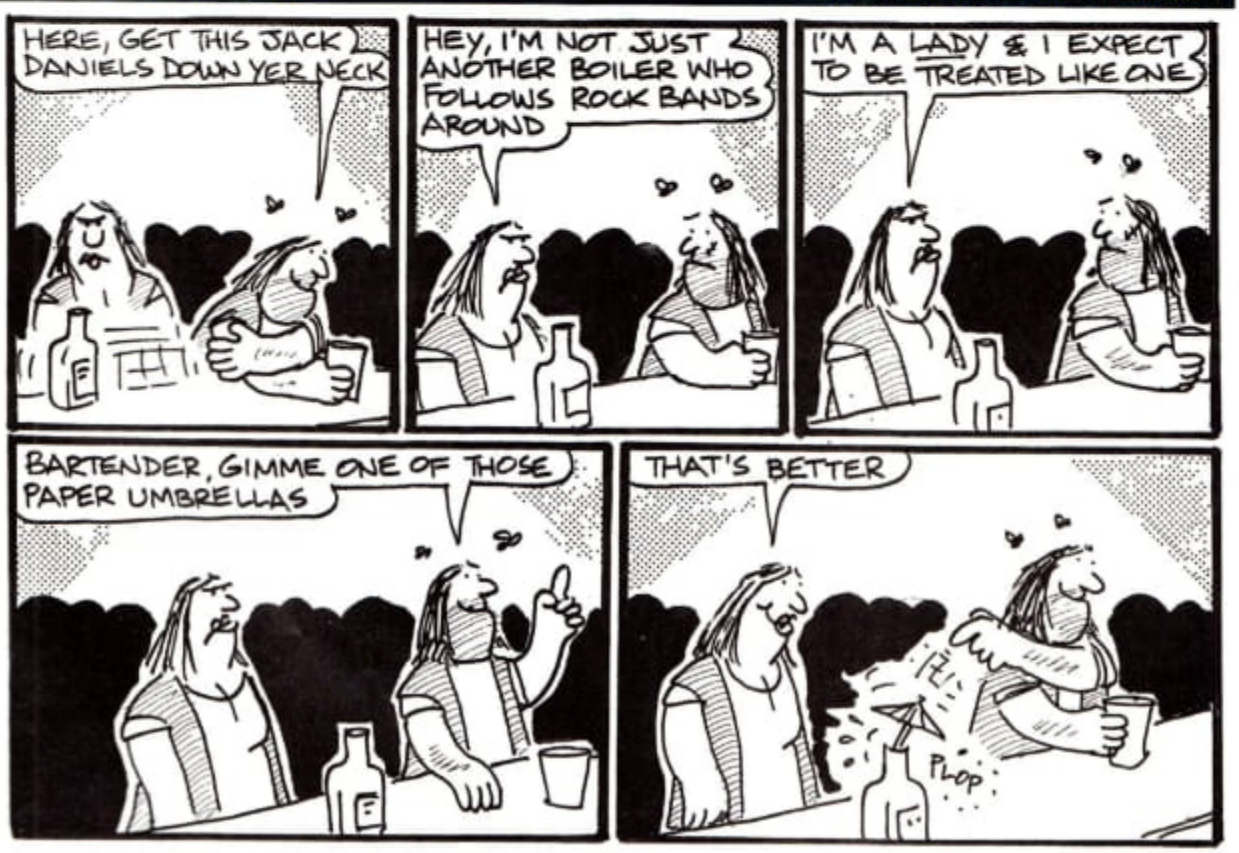
A komprehensive list of all available bakk issues dating as far bakk as issue 27 will be supplied with every order.

PANDORA PEROXIDE

BY RAY ZELL

BRICK OUTHOUSE

BY KEVIN B FLANNERY



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EPY ► 6

YEAH, IT'S the *Kerrang!* Metal Box! 15 Metal masterpieces on CD in a black and brooding box!

There are 200 of these box sets in existence, which have been compiled to commemorate 500 issues of The World's Greatest Heavy Metal Magazine! They are not available in the shops – which makes them the ultimate *Kerrang!* kollector's item!

Being the kind souls that we are, we're inviting you lot to come on and celebrate our 500th issue by giving away 50 of these ultra-rare box sets!

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- **SLIPPERY WHEN WET** *Bon Jovi*
- **PUMP** *Aerosmith*
- **STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT** *UFO*
- **INTRODUCE YOURSELF** *Faith No More*
- **HYSTERIA** *Def Leppard*
- **ACE OF SPADES** *Motörhead*
- **APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION** *Guns N' Roses*
- **II** *Led Zeppelin*
- **BLIZZARD OF OZZ** *Ozzy Osbourne*
- **DESTROYER** *Kiss*

One of these ultra-rare box sets could be yours! Just complete the token on this page, and send it together with a completed Token One – which was printed in last week's 500th issue – to: The Metal Box Komp, *Kerrang!*, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.

Thanks to Epic, Castle, Phonogram, London, Atlantic and Chrysalis for helping kompile Kerrang!*'s Metal Box.*

TOKEN TWO

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Tickets £6 box office tel: 021 622 2314

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METAL GIG GUIDE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

BEESTON Durham Ox (0602 254220) **Vivid**
BIRMINGHAM Breedon Bar (021-459 6573) **The Strawbs/Bleeding Hearts**
BOURNEMOUTH Mr Smith's (0202 291617) **Poze/Dogsbody**
BRIGHOUSE Civic Hall **Oedipus**
COVENTRY Warwick University **The Wishplants**
CROYDON Cartoon (081-688 4500) **Mr Huckleberry/Mad Hatter/Brainshakes**
DERBY Wherehouse **NOFX**
DUNDEE Oscar's (0382 21176) **SMASH/Kaliphz**
DUNSTABLE Bird In Hand (0582 666820) **Orange DeLux**
EXETER Cavern Club **Brave New World**
LIVERPOOL Krazyhouse **Life Of Agony**
LONDON Astoria 2, Charing Cross Road (071-434 9592) **Tyketto**
LONDON Borderline, Manette Street **Mutha's Day Out**
LONDON Camden Underworld (071-482 1932) **Dee Dee Ramone/Tribute To Nothing**
LONDON Marquee (071-437 6601) **Suck Henry/Joyride/Andromeda Strain**
LONDON Swan, Fulham (071-385 1840) **The Divided/Outcry/Stone**
LONDON Wag, Wardour Street **Burst/Scam 69**
LOUGHBOROUGH University **Core**
LOWER EARLY Centre Point **Cock Goblins/Cage**
MANCHESTER Boardwalk **The Tea Party**
MANSFIELD Town Mill **Ethereal**
MILTON KEYNES Skoolhouse **Tenpole Tudor**
NORWICH Oval **Riot Act/Astral Plain**
NORWICH Waterfront **Napalm Death/Entombed**
OXFORD Dolly (0865 244761) **Ask Alice**
WARWICK University **Sugar Plums**

Deathsters ANATHEMA play Nottingham (Friday), Liverpool (Saturday) and London (Sunday), with AT THE GATES in tow!

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

AYR Jones's **Gun**
BALLYMENA Leighinmohr Dive **Candyman**
BAMBER BRIDGE Superstars Café **Rawhead**
BATH Moles **Bullyrag/Green Apple Quickstep**
BIRMINGHAM Hibernian **The Tea Party**
BIRMINGHAM Xposure Rock Café **Fastlayne/No Man's Land**
BLACKPOOL Tache **Kid Wicked**
BOURNEMOUTH Gander On The Green **Dogsbody**
BOURNEMOUTH Mr Smith's **Spoonfed**
BRAINTREE Flacks (0376 345544) **Dark Horse**
BUCKLEY Tivoli **Life Of Agony**

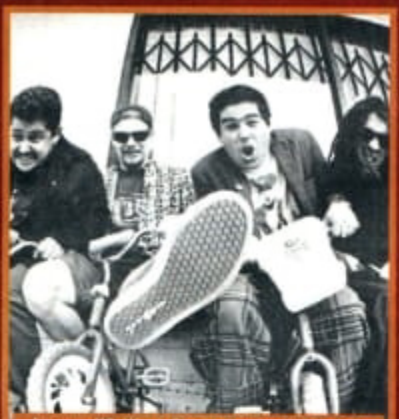
HOT 'N' HAPPENIN' THIS WEEK!

Brit rockers LITTLE ANGELS enter into their trio of last-ever gigs this week. Toby Jepson and Co say their farewells in Leeds (Thursday), Nottingham (Friday) and then their final gig at London's Royal Albert Hall (Saturday)...

CARDIFF Gassy Jack's **The Hamsters**
CHELMSFORD Army And Navy **Thrum/Snag**
CHERITON White Lion **Mother Lode**
FINEDON Mulsoe Arms **Machine**
FROME Trinity **Blind Fury**
INVERNESS Muirton Motel **Reverend Brown And The Earlybirds**
IPSWICH Royal William **Armada/Caution Horses**
LEEDS Town And Country Club (0532 800100) **Little Angels**
LINCOLN Falstaff **Swampwalk**
LINCOLN Old Skoolhouse **Ark**
LONDON Astoria 2, Charing Cross Road (071-434 9592) **Napalm Death/Entombed**
LONDON Astoria, Charing Cross Road (071-434 9592) **Ozric Tentacles**
LONDON Marquee (071-437 6601) **Never**
LONDON Mulberry Bush, Bishopsgate (071-247 7805) **Sugar Plums**
LONDON Swan, Fulham (071-385 1840) **Born Idol/Mumbo Jumbo**
LUTON George II (0582 28916) **Jump**
MANSFIELD Harvey's Night Club **Freakzone**
NEWPORT TJ's **NOFX**
NORTHWICH Witton Chimes **Empyre**
NORWICH Oval **Groovehead**
NOTTINGHAM Rock City **Mutha's Day Out**
NOTTINGHAM Salutation (0602 504627) **Vivid**
NOTTINGHAM Thurland **Ethereal**
PLYMOUTH Charlie's (0752 262288) **The Rays**
SELLINDGE Mucky Duck **Born 2 B**
ST ALBANS Horn Of Plenty **Blue**
ST HELENS Raven Lodge **Cardinal Thang**
STOKE-ON-TRENT Wheatsheaf **Hatemonger**
WAKEFIELD Beehive (0924 387319) **Engine**
WALSALL Boston Café **Fred Zeppelin**
WHITWICK Three Crowns **Run For Cover**
WIDNES Richmond Square **Earthwood**
WORTHING Inn On The Prom **Cardinal Sin**
WREXHAM Feathers **IQ Zero**

FRIDAY, JULY 1

ABERCARN Rugby Club (0495 243052) **Engine**
ASHTON-IN-MAKEFIELD Pit Pony **New Age Braves**
BASINGSTOKE Premiers **Mothers Ruin**
BATH Walcot Palais **Jokers Wild/Guttersnipe**
BIRKENHEAD Molly Malone's **Tenebrae**
BIRMINGHAM Que Club **Dogs D'Amour**
BLACKPOOL Tache (0253 28732) **Rawhead**
BLACKPOOL West Coast Rock Café (0253 751283) **Earthwood**
BOURNEMOUTH Mr Smith's (0202 291617) **Addiction/Means Of Escape/Fevertree**
BRACKNELL South Hill Park **The Hamsters**
BRADFORD Rio's **Life Of Agony**
BRADFORD Treadwells Arts Centre (0274 306065) **The Big Bang**
BURY Horse And Jockey (061-764 7474) **Badger**
CARDIFF Kane's **Adrenalin Kick**
CHELMSFORD Army And Navy (0245 262424) **Demented Are Go/Shakeout**
CHESHAM Axis Rock Club (0494 783964) **Jump**
CLACTON Lord Nelson **Tattered 'N' Torn**
CRESWELL Portland Hotel **Cold Gin**
CWMBRAN Square Inn **Mother Mary**
DINNINGTON Squirrel (0909 562554) **Sweet 'N' Innocent/Retaliator**
DONCASTER Leopard **Seventh Son**
EXETER Cavern **Scream Window**
GILLINGHAM Beacon Court **Panting Skeletons**
GLASGOW Cathouse **Knucklebone/Electric Garden**
GLOUCESTER Greyfriars **Core**
HEREFORD Old Harp (0432 277330) **Who Knows Didley?/Ritch Bitch**
HIGH WYCOMBE Flint Cottage **Original Sinners**



Insane US West Coast Punks NOFX defy various injured limbs to lay waste to Derby (Wednesday), Newport (Thursday) and London (Friday)!

HIGH WYCOMBE White Lion **Silas Brew**
KIDDERMINSTER Market Tavern **Cum To Bedlam**
LINCOLN Duke Of Wellington **Platform 4**
LONDON Borderline, Manette Street **The Tea Party**
LONDON Highbury Garage **NOFX**
LONDON Marquee (071-437 6601) **Cradlesnatcher/Ruptured Dog**
LONDON Ruskin Arms, East Ham **Metal Mobile Roadshow**
LONDON Thomas A'Beckett, Old Kent Road (071-252 7605) **Born Idol**
MANCHESTER Rock World **Maelstrom**
MANCHESTER University **Tyketto/ Shotgun Symphony**
MANNINGTREE White Hart **Blade Chain**
MARKET HARBOROUGH Wilbarston Hall **Dave Hole/Del Bromham Band**
NEW BIGGIN Old Ship **The Force**
NEWBOLD Old House (0246 274321) **Zlatni Rat**
NORTHWICH Witton Albion FC **Empyre**
NORWICH Oval **Good Company**
NOTTINGHAM Rock City **Anathema/ At The Gates**
NOTTINGHAM Rock City (0602 412544) **Little Angels** (upstairs)
OLDHAM Shack **Godheads/Mazey Fade**
PAISLEY Arena **Gun**
PETERBOROUGH Cherry Tree **Surface Tension**
PLYMOUTH Connections **Voodoo Sioux**
SIDCUP Woodman (081-850 3181) **State Of Mind/State Secumba**
SLEAFORD Black Bull **Zedd**
SLOUGH Kingfishers **Maid In England**
ST AUSTELL Queen's Head **The Rays/ The Holy Joes**
TELFORD Harper Adams College **Sugar Plums**
THORNTON HEATH Muddy Waters **Phil Hilborne Band**
WARRINGTON Lord Rodney **Risky Business**
WELLINGTON Duke At The Station **Tantrum**
WEST BROMWICH Gough Arms **Little Scarlet**
WOLVERHAMPTON Wulfrun Hall **Napalm Death/Entombed**
WORCESTER Brewery Tap **Blind Fury**

SATURDAY, JULY 2

BASINGSTOKE New Inn **Silas Brew**
BEDMINSTER Rope Walk Inn **Blind Fury**
BRAINTREE Flacks (0376 345544) **3D Echo**
BRIGHTON Freebutt **Split Baby/ The Other Way**
BRISTOL Full Moon **Soul Rebellion**
CARDIFF Kanes **Mother Mary**
CHESTER Beehive (0244 320980) **Axis**
COLNE Rock Coven **Kid Wicked**
COVENTRY Bull's Head (0203 458985) **Vivid**
DEAL Black Horse **Mothers Ruin**
DEESIDE Central Hotel **Dizzy Mama**
DONCASTER Leopard **The Big Bang**
DORCHESTER Trike Club Rally **Mothers Ruin**
EDINBURGH Venue **Gun**
GREETHAM Community Centre **Smoking Lizards/Peer Pressure/Purgatory**
HELLINGLY Golden Martlett **Panting Skeletons**
HENLOW Henlow Parish Hall **Strawdog**
HULL Caesar's Palace **Baby Face**
HULL New Adelphi (0482 48216) **Kinetic Art**
IPSWICH Royal William **Those Glamrockers/ Tin Lily**
LEICESTER La Bodegas **Platform 4**
LEVEN New Inn **Zedd**
LIVERPOOL Flying Picket **Anathema/ At The Gates**
LONDON Mean Fiddler, Harlesden **Smalltown Heroes**
LONDON Royal Albert Hall (071-589 8212) **Little Angels**
LONDON Ruskin Arms, East Ham **Metal Mobile Roadshow**
LONDON Swan, Fulham (071-385 1840) **Never The Bride/Clockwork Lemons**
LONDON Thomas A'Beckett **Stoned Crazy**
LONGHORSELY Tudor Lodge Caravan Park **Powerage**
MILTON KEYNES Dukes (0908 562001) **Jump**
MORPETH Rock Festival **Good Company**
NORWICH Oval **Scallywag**
OLDHAM Shack (0831 679853) **Fruit Tumour/ Dream Baby Dream**
PAIGNTON Fiesta Inn **Voodoo Sioux**
PERTH Taw Tams **Reverend Brown And The Earlybirds**
SALISBURY Arts Centre **The Hamsters**
SCROPTON Foresters Arms **Free 'N' Eezie**
SCUNTHORPE Fast Eddie's **Fat Slim**
SOUTHPORT Arts Centre (0704 540011) **Skin 'N' Bone/Angel Child**
ST ALBANS Horn Of Plenty **Purple Turtle**
ST AUSTELL General Wolfe (0726 75589) **The Rays/The Holy Joes**
STAINES Blue Anchor Inn **Maid In England**
STANLEY King's Head **The Force**
SUDBURY Royal Oak **Tattered 'N' Torn**
SWANSCOME Wheatsheaf **Nightfall**
SWANSEA Coachouse **Adrenalin Kick**
TENTERDEN Eight Bells **Clamdiggers**
TOWCESTER Sun Inn (0327 350580) **Gearbox**
TRENT BIDDULPH Roebuck **Swampwalk**
TUNBRIDGE WELLS Forum **The Tea Party**
WAKEFIELD Beehive (0924 387319) **Evolution**
WIX Waggon **Blade Chain**
WOLVERHAMPTON Civic Hall (0902 312030) **Atomic Babies/Bigshot/Blood And Passion/ Crossbreed/Engine**
WOLVERHAMPTON Wulfrun Hall **Tyketto/Shotgun Symphony**
WROUGHTON Three Tuns **Normal Stress**
YORK Fibbers **Salad/Catatonia**

US noise merchants LIFE OF AGONY hit Liverpool (Wednesday), Buckley (Thursday) and Bradford (Friday)!

Arkansas Rap Metal upstarts MUTHA'S DAY OUT lock into London (Wednesday) and Nottingham (Thursday)!

SUNDAY, JULY 3

BOURNEMOUTH Phoenix **Xyster**
BRIERLEY HILL Rock Tavern **Doctor Love Pole**
CHELMSFORD Attic **Full Metal Racket**
CHELMSFORD Y Club **Dark Horse**
CROYDON Cartoon (081-688 4500) **Ob Jay Da**
GLASGOW Garage **Tyketto/ Shotgun Symphony**
GRIMSBY Whitehart (0472 343783) **Aftermath**
HASLEMERE Crown And Cushion (0428 653363) **The Hamsters**
LLANHARAN RFC **Mother Mary**
LONDON Garage, Highbury **Anathema/ At The Gates**
LONDON Marquee **RDSM/COS/The Kays**
MARLOW Pegasus (0629 484926) **Jump**
NORTHAMPTON Racehorse (0604 31997) **Vivid**
OXFORD Dolly (0865 244761) **High 'N' Mighty**
STAPLEFORD Horse And Jockey **Ethereal**
WINTERBOURNE Swan **Blind Fury**

MONDAY, JULY 4

DARLINGTON Humphreys **The Force**
GRIMSBY Micawbers **Buff Meaba**
LONDON Marquee (071-437 6601) **Foreheads In A Fishtank/Crisis Children**
NEWCASTLE Riverside **Tyketto/ Shotgun Symphony**
OXFORD Dolly (0865 244761) **Trojan Horse**
SHEFFIELD Old Blue Bell (0742 721573) **Maelstromn**
SHEFFIELD Saddle (0742 737633) **Zlatni Rat**
TORQUAY Excels (0803 298264) **The Rays**
WORTHING Flappers Bar/Twenties Nightclub (0903 23850) **Tarrasque/Mock/All Fall Down**

TUESDAY, JULY 5

LONDON Marquee **Stone**
OXFORD Dolly (0865 244761) **Alter Ego**
PRESTON Lamb **Earthwood**
SOUTHAMPTON Joiners Arms **Jadis**

For free inclusion, send details to: *Jasmine Radford, Metal Gig Guide*, Kerrang!, *52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF*. Fax us on 071-734 2287. Phone with late gigs on 071-437 8050. The deadline for inclusion is 10 days previous to *K!* issue dates.

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MUSICIANS WANTED

DRUMMER URGENTLY REQUIRED for metal band in West London, with record deal. Album and dates waiting. Influences Queensryche. Box No K6184.

GUITARIST SEEKS MUSICIANS for original blues rock band. Influences: Zeppelin, Aerosmith, Stones. North West area. Mike 061-256 2453.

DRUMMER AND BASSIST for Lanarkshire band. Call John 0698 374829.

DYNAMIC MALE Vocalist/Frontman seeks rock band with recording deal. Commitment, total dedication guaranteed. Box No K6174.

TUMBLEWEED BRADFORD based rock band, urgently require talented vocalist/frontman. Influences:– Mr Big, Dan Reed Network etc. Must be 110% deciated. No timewasters! Contact Mat (0274) 589348. Jake/Jon 0535 664225.

FRONTMAN\SONGWRITER available, aged 23, looks, attitude, range, charisma, seeking similar band with heavyweight management anywhere in Europe. Mark 0903 716296 or 0903 714711.

DOUBLE BASS DRUMMER required for POWER OUTFIT. Phone Tony 061-498 8700.

VOCALIST AND KEYBOARD player required for Central UK-based original band with serious intentions. Call 0246 566267 for details.

SINGER REQUIRED to complete Grunge/Rock/Hendrix–Wildhearts band. Midlands area. Call Dave 0530 224308 now.

EXP. FRONTMAN Rollins tyle seeks loud aggressive band. Helmet, Biohazard etc. Serious enquiries only. 0449 770277 (Suffolk-based).

PERSONAL

TALL LEGGY BLONDE 26 into Glam Rock seeks friends for clubs and gigs. London area. Box No K6167.

CJ HOOPER LIKES WHAM! But happy birthday anyway from B******d.

GREAT to have a friend like you, STARCHILD. Hope to see you again, love from Japan, N.

FEMALE ROCKER seeks genuine female rockers, straight for gigs, travel, concerts. London area. Box No K6186.

BORED? FEDUP? Male 29 into metal indie, bigmacs, tattoos, cinema, football, gigs, n/s. Seeks chatty fun lost souls, m/f Hants anywhere. Box No 6187.

ASPIRING MUSICIAN 28 seeks attractive single female to share in the good times to come. Please enclose photo. Box No K6188.

BRETT MICHAELS sorry to hear about your accident, wishing you a speedy recovery, all my love Cath, (the lady with the ring) X.

CARING MALE 32 in forces, into most rock/metal seeks bizarre crazy female for passion, excitement, fun and laughter seeking; friendship/relationship/corresponden ce. Peterborough anywhere. Reply guaranteed. Box No K6185.

CATHERINE I will always love you. From Paul XXXXX.

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ALICE IN CHAINS - The Unbelievable Tale (New)
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GUNS 'N' ROSES - Clown (New)
SEPULTURA - Chaos Donington (Grey Muscle Shirt)
SEPULTURA - Donington Machine 94 (New)
BIOHAZARD - Tale From The Hard Side
BIOHAZARD - Down For Life
BIOHAZARD - State of the World (White NOB/P)
TROUBLE - Logo (No B/P)
SOUND GARDEN - Black Hole Sun
BLACK SABBATH - Angel
NAILBOMB - Feels Good/Punk Loser
NIN - DOWNWARD SPIRAL (Beige) Album
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VIEW FROM THE BAR

METAL'S MOST MONSTROUS 'N' MALICIOUS GOSSIP COLUMN!

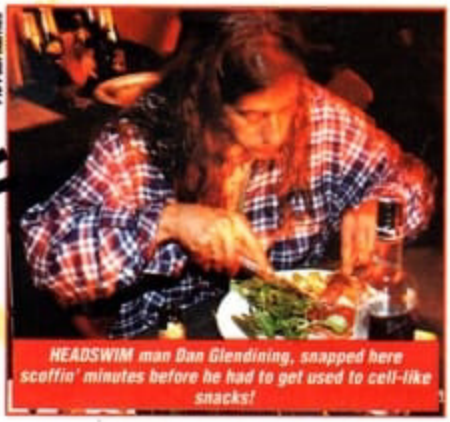
THE GREAT British Heavy Metal Awards? It wuz a riot, boozers – as last week's 'Bar Special illustrated! The starz were out 'n' the booze was flowin'! But of kourse, there is a seedier side to the rock 'n' roll business – and the K! Awards nite on June 13 wasn't without its tales of gross, alcohol-induced outrage and misery! Read on at your peril, boozers!

HEADSWIM HEADSPIN!

OH YES! So preposterous were the after-bash proceedings at London's legendary St Moritz Club that we're almost hard pushed to remember the torrid tales!

Somehow we seem to recall Headswim guitar-wieldin' vocalist Dan Glendinning getting carted off to the cells in broad daylight! Seems the 'Swimmer took it upon himself to antagonise the Boys In Blue with taunts involving 'controlled substances', and found himself spending the night in a rather controlled environment!

Amazingly, the strong arm of the law failed to intervene when Maiden sticksman Nicko McBrain brandished his highly offensive green deck shoes in a menacing manner, terrorising the frail folk huddling in the dark recesses of the Moritz!



Pic Paul Harries

HEADSWIM man Dan Glendining, snapped here scoffin' minutes before he had to get used to cell-like snacks!

BLURRED VISION!

THEN THERE'S a hazy recollection involving the incredibly lubricated Bradford boys in Terriblevision. While throat-scrote Tony Wright spent the entire evening telling everyone that alcohol made him sick, the rest of the band were busy quaffing everything in sight!

Such was their condition, boozers, that guitarist Mark Yates hobbled off to grab a deathburger midway through the evening, proudly clutching his award for 'Best New British Band'... only to fall asleep on a nearby bench! He awoke some time later – minus the *K!*-shaped trophy *and* 80 quid lighter!

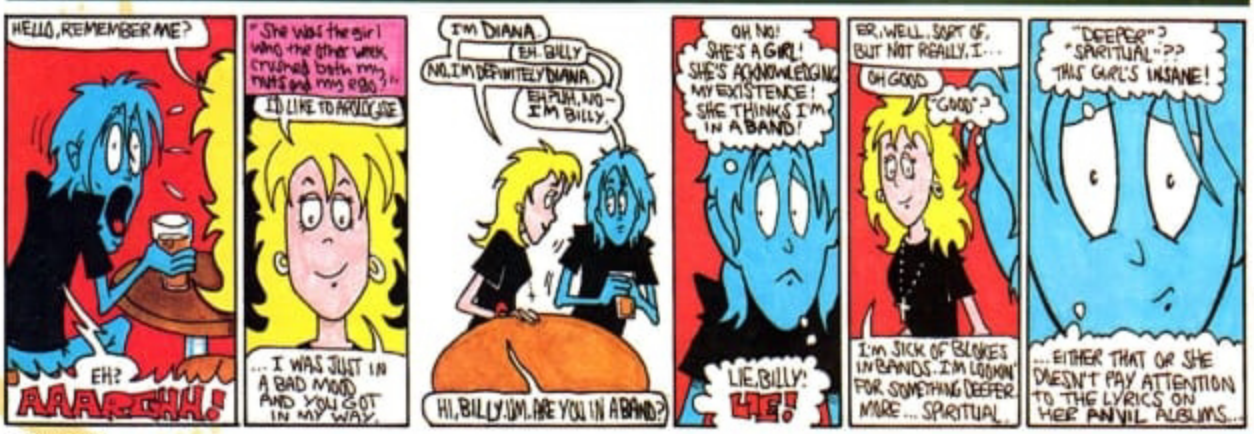
Rest assured, he spent the rest of the night looking doleful and on the brink of tears! But two days later, boozers, this sorry story came to a happy ending when *K!* Towers received a call stating that the Award had been recovered from a vagrant loitering outside Piccadilly's Trocadero shopping centre!

Laugh? We had to check that it wasn't the boy Yates, who was last sighted wearing his hand-me-down Oxfam suit and clutching a can of Special Brew! HAARGHHH!

Pic Paul Harries

IRON MAIDEN man Nicko McBrain (left) and The Almighty's Ricky Warwick swap footwear tips!

KONTINUUM part 37...



MUPPET METAL MAYHEM!

THANKFULLY, DESPITE these shame-faced performances from the 'Swimming klub and the 'Vision vagrants, other Brit Metal stalwarts were upholding the *K!* tradition of kaos and, er, more kaos!

Yeah, when the smoke had cleared after some 12 hours of boozin', while the likes of Def Leppard's Joe Elliott and Queen's Brian May were tucked up in bed, down in the bowels of the Moritz the likes of Therapy?, The Almighty, Pitch Shifter, Skyscraper and our very own Mörat were still heard arguing the toss over greatest Motörhead riff of all time and generally making very little sense at all! For a while back there, boozers, it looked as frightening as an episode of, er, 'The Muppets'!

To cap it all, the Therapy? crew were livin' after midnight and rockin' 'to the dawn only a coupla days later when they collected presentation discs for their 'Troublegum' opus which hit the Gold mark in Ireland! How do they *do* it, boozers? And why *do* their teeth grind like that? Answers on a used beer can to 'Bar HQ!

THERAPY? in sheer teeth-grinding photo opportunity!

ONE IN THE BUSH!

NEEDLESS TO say that the rest of the Awards aftermath passed with numerous individuals becoming legends in their own lunchtime.

We could regale you with stories about a certain PR man who crawled off to sleep under a nearby bush due to his inability walk straight or board his homebound train! We could tell you about the booking agent who returned to his office only to eject the contents of his beer-sodden stomach! Or we could warble on about arm-wrestlin' Paradise Lost frontman Nick Holmes' embarassingly attempting at dancing on his own to dodgy Disco records! Yup, we could name the names and even produce the unsavoury photographic evidence! But a family publication like the Big *K!* could not possibly divulge the depths of depravity entered into on the night...

Let's just say a hangover was had by all! 'Til next week, stay clean, boozers! Pass it around!

THE WEEK'S BIRTHDAZE!

Deep Purple drummer Ian Paice and Don Dokken, June 29... 'Bar buffoon Yngwie Malmsteen and Pantera frontman Phil Anselmo, June 30... Faith No More keyboard player Roddy Bottum, July 1... Ex-Ratt/current Arcade man Stephen Pearcy, July 3... Ex-Babies-cum-solo AOR god John Waite, July 4!

AGAINST THE GRAIN Presents

NOFX

+GUNS AND WANKERS
+RUGRATS
FRIDAY 1st JULY, 7:30
THE GARAGE $5 ADV.

AGAINST THE GRAIN Presents

Anathema

AT THE GATES + MOURN
Sunday 3rd July, 7:30p.m.,
£5 Adv. The Garage

WIN FREE BEER FOR A YEAR!

YEAH, YOU read that right, boozers! You can WIN FREE BEER for a whole year thanks to those luvverly people at *Carlsberg*!

They've not only sponsored *Kerrang!*'s own *Metal Awards* as well as *Donington*'s second stage, but they'll also be keepin' you quenched at this year's Metal-mungous *Reading Festival*!

To cap it all, they've decided that they'd like to keep one lucky *K!* reader rolling in beer for the next 12 months! They're giving you the chance to 365 cans of Carlsberg beer – and it will only cost you the price of a stamp if you buy the next issue of *Kerrang!* and collect the second crucial Carlsberg token!

Fill in both tokens with your name and address and send them to: *A YEAR OF FREE BEER*, Kerrang!, *52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF*!

Remember, you must be over 18 years old to enter!

DEAR BOOZE-LICIOUS 'BAR ED,
Please enter me for the well-oiled *Kerrang!*/Carlsberg Beer-drenched draw! It's too good an opportunity to miss!

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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AGE.....

TOKEN ONE

Marillion ask you to support them on a tour. Do you do it?
Fish: "I don't think I'd ever be in the position where they'd ask me. People keep asking me when I'm gonna rejoin Marillion, and I think that's insulting to Steve Hogarth. Steve is the Marillion singer, and they've been established as their own band for six years now.

"At the moment, I think the vibes would be so horrific that it'd burn up after two days!"

Would you donate bone marrow to save the life of John Major?
Fish: "Yeah, if it came down to it. The guy's 'a person', no matter what his politics are. If it came down to something as simple as saving a life, then it'd be cool. If I dealt with everyone on a purely political level, there's a lot of people I wouldn't work with!"

You're offered a film role as a homosexual. The script is incredible. Do you take it?
Fish: "Yeah, I like the fact that you can become somebody else in movies. There'd be a strong case for investigating that part of your psyche, and if the script was *that* good then I'd definitely be interested. But I'd probably find it very daunting, unless someone was willing to really put their faith in me as an actor."

You discover that a member of your band is a heroin addict. How do you react?
Fish: "Mmmmm... number one question is, 'Does it affect the gig?'. Apart from that, it's the guy's own lives.

"If someone was unable to perform or creating a problem among other members, then I'd fire him immediately. Having said that, I'd try and discuss the problem first. A problem shared is a problem halved...

A lucrative major label deal is on the cards, with one stipulation: half of your live set must be Marillion material from now on. Do you sign?
Fish: "No. I would never deal with any executives anyway, because they wouldn't understand where the hell I was at. That's why I'm independent – trading on the past is a bit too much like necrophilia for me...

"I'm not dismissing that because of the rotten blood that went down in 1989 – I'm really proud of the stuff I did with Marillion. But I only play that stuff in the set when I'm excited by it."

A band rumoured to be closet fascists want to record at your Funny Farm studio in Edinburgh. Do you let them?
Fish: "'Rumoured'? Anawful word. I was *rumoured* to be a finished cocaine addict, etc, etc! But I'd have a problem with any band coming up to the Farm who were overly fascist. I'd tell them to f**k off and do their own thing somewhere else. That's not the sort of vibes I want up there, which might sound very '60s!"

You're invited on to a TV show to discuss the North/South divide. Do you do it?
Fish: "Yeah. I've done it before. I'm not British, I'm Scottish, and I don't give a shit whether people like that or not! There's no way I'm gonna pander down to anyone who believes in the wonderful British Empire which doesn't exist any more! I believe in Scottish independence, although nationalism shouldn't be confused with racism. I'm basically a socialist working in a very capitalist industry. My and Scotland's beliefs are epitomised by having the Funny Farm and my Chrysalis record company..."

You're booked to appear at a big festival in Manchester a week before, you hear that one of the organisers is heavily linked with Sellafield. Do you still go ahead with it?
Fish: "Let me put it this way: We turned up at a gig in Switzerland, in an area with a lot of coloured people, and were told that blacks weren't allowed in the club, because the promoter had decided that blacks sell drugs. I turned round, 45 minutes before we played, and said we were pulling the gig. They changed their minds, although there was still trouble.

"I think that answers your question. I don't like Sellafield, just like I don't like the power station that's parked on my Scottish doorstep, and I don't like nuclear power – it's never been proved safe yet!"

An ex-girlfriend appears in the press, casting negative aspersions over your sexual prowess. Do you sue?
Fish: "I've got enough skeletons in my closet to start a small battalion, but I don't think an ex-girlfriend would turn around and do something like that. If they did, then they'd need the money and they could take it! My wife isn't gonna walk out on me because someone else says I'm crap in bed. She knows I'm crap in bed!"

Fish was given a konfrontational baiting by JASON ARNOPP!

KONFRONTATIONS

There'll be no fascists round his recording studio, no gigs linked with dodgy corporations, and definitely no calling him British! And as for a Marillion reformation... forget it! Lummie, proud Scot FISH comes to terms with K! Konfrontations!

NEXT ISSUE

ON SALE JULY 6!

SLIPPERY WHEN WET! IT'S

WHITESNAKE!

CAN COVERDALE STILL SLIDE IT IN?

BON JOVI LP EXCLUSIVE!

DRUG HELL!
IS HEROIN KILLING ROCK 'N' ROLL?

.....PLUS.....

L7! ENTOMBED! NAPALM DEATH! GIBSON'S GUITAR BASH!

DEAR MR NOISEAGENT,
Please reserve me a copy of *Kerrang!* issue 502, on sale Wednesday, July 6.

If I don't get my copy of *K!* 502, I will get Kiss man Gene Simmons to come round and stick his humungous tongue where the sun don't shine! Yikes!

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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BLind MeLoN

Change

The new single

Released 27th June

Available on Limited Edition 7" green vinyl, 12" poster and pic disc pack CD with colour postcards. Cassette. All formats feature live tracks

Blind Melon

Special Edition Double CD Digipak

Released 4th July

Bonus picture disc CD includes 6 live tracks recorded during the band's US tour. Bonus booklet includes exclusive band shots

For all the latest information on Blind Melon please write to: BLIND MELON, PO Box 21, London W11 6XA

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